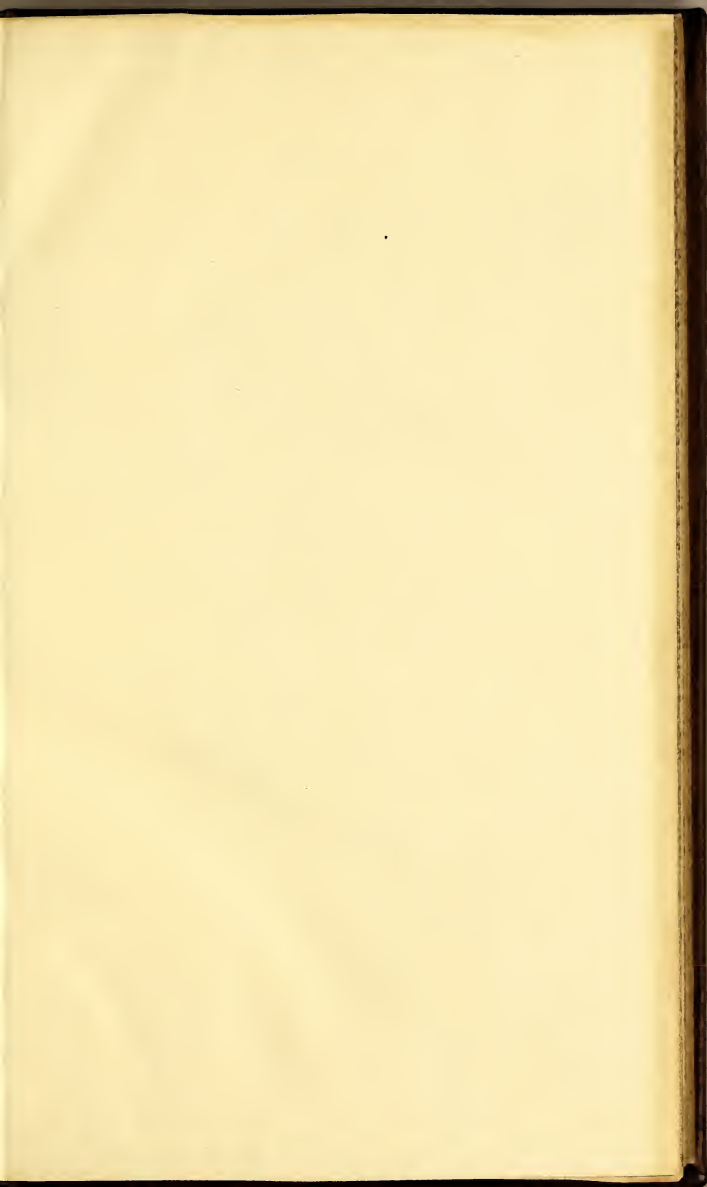


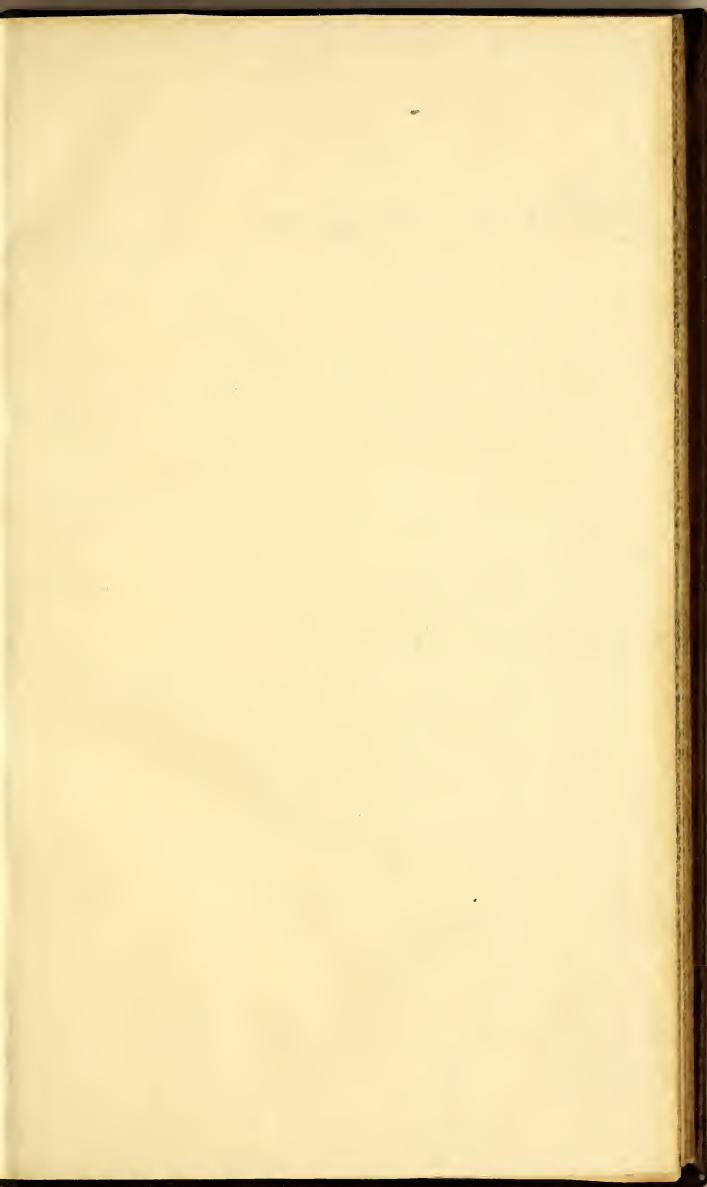


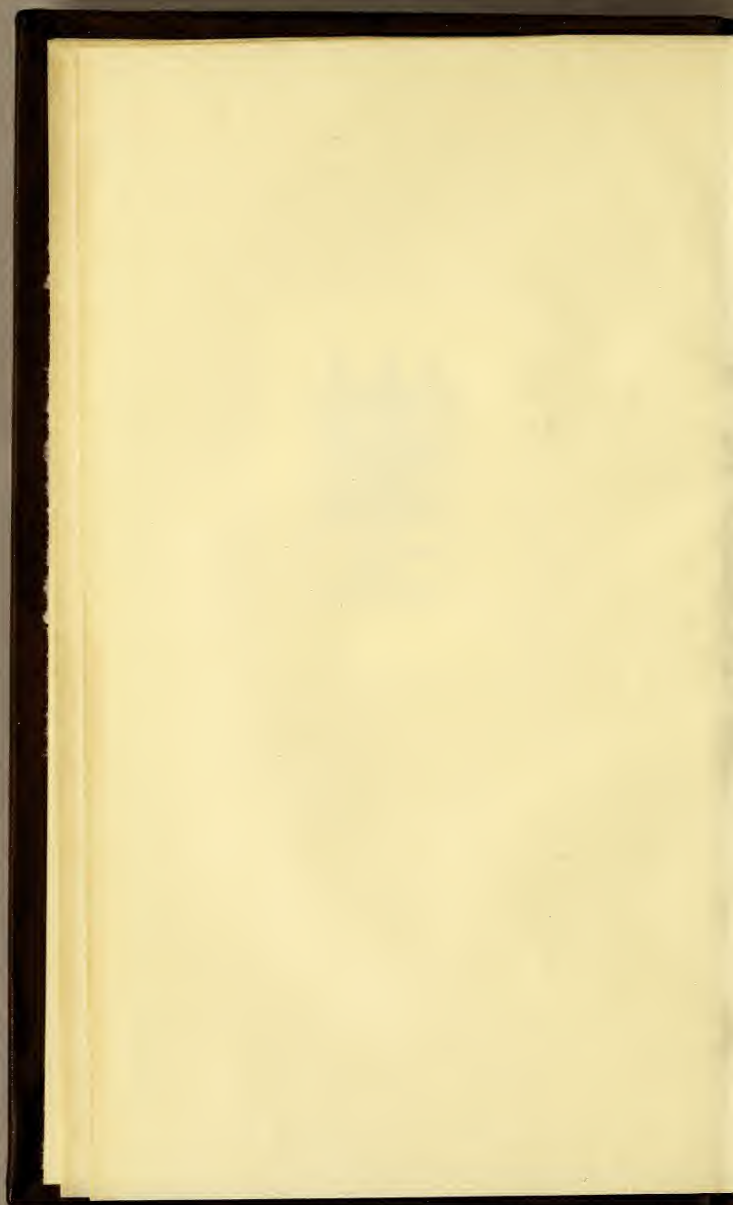


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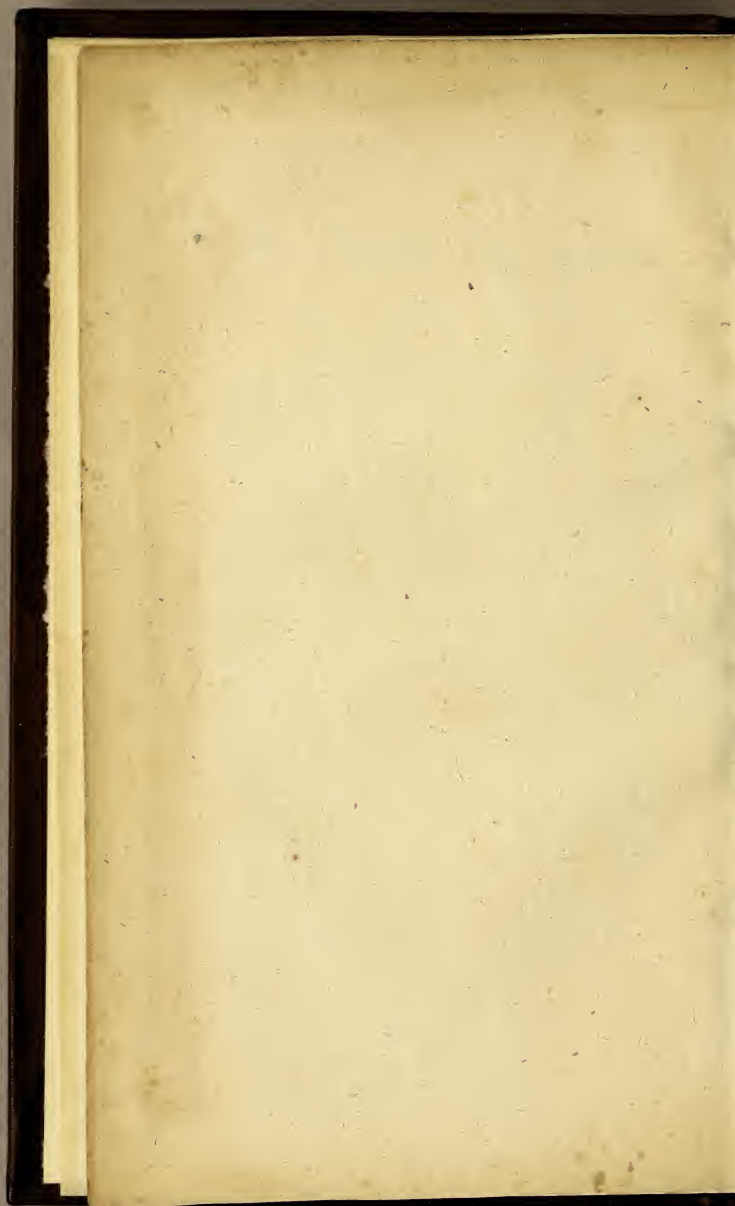








Second mth Pontis la Salle p.^r



AN
A C C O U N T
 OF
Monfieur de la SALLE's
 LAST
 Expedition and DISCOVERIES
 IN
North AMERICA.

Presented to the *French King*,

And Published by the

Chevalier Tonti, Governour of Fort St. *Lo-*
uis, in the Province of the *Illinois*.

Made *Engliſh* from the *Paris* Original.

ALSO
 The ADVENTURES of the *Sieur de*
MONTAUBAN, Captain of the *French*
Buccaneers on the Coast of *Guinea*, in the
 Year 1695.

L O N D O N,

Printed for *J. Tonſon* at the *Fudge's Head*, and *S. Buckley*
 at the *Dolphin* in *Fleet-ſtreet*, and *R. Knaplock*, at the
Angel and Crown in *St. Paul's Church-Yard*. 1698.

A C C O U N T

Montieur de La Salle

Exploration and Discoveries

North America

Prefixed to the French King

and published by the

Chevalier de La Jonquiere, Governor of Louisiana,
and in the Province of the Illinois

Made English from the Paris Original

The ADVENTURES of the Sieur de
La Salle, Captain of the French
Battalion on the Coast of Guinea, in the
Year 1722

LONDON:
Printed by J. Smith at the Sign of the Anchor, and by J. Baskin
at the Sign of the Crown, in Pall-mall, and A. Knapton, in the
 Strand, near the Theatre Royal, 1727.

A NEW
ACCOUNT
OF THE
Northern-America.

TRUTH and Sincerity being the chief Qualities, which make a Book of this nature Valuable, the Author of this promises himself upon that account a favourable Reception from the Publick : and therefore thinks it would be superfluous to make a longer Preface.

Monfieur Cavelier de La Salle, a Native of Roan in Normandy, the chiet Undertaker of the Discoveries in the *Northern America*, which make the Subject-Matter of this Book, was a Man of extraordinary Parts, and undaunted Courage. He was the first that formed the Design of Travelling from the Lake of Frontenac in Canada, to the Gulph of
B Mexico,

Mexico, through a vast unknown Country, in order to bring the Inhabitants to the Knowledge of the Christian Religion, and Extend the Dominions of the King of *France*. This Gentleman having duly weighed all the Difficulties that were like to cross so Noble a Design, came to Court to acquaint his Majesty with it, who was pleased not only to approve his Enterprize, but also to Encourage it, by the Liberal Assistance, and the Power he gave to M. La Salle, to dispose of his New Discoveries as he should think fit.

I was then at the Court of *France* to solicit some Employment, having served his Majesty both by Sea and Land, and lost one Hand in *Sicily* by a Granado, and as M. La Salle was upon his departure, the Prince of *Conti* was pleased to recommend me to him, as fit to accompany him in his Undertaking, whereupon I was easily admitted, the Patronage of His Highness having been very useful to M. La Salle. Every thing being ready for our departure, we set sail from *Rochel*, July 14. 1678. to the number of 30 Men, amongst whom were Pilots, Carpenters, Smiths and other useful Artists, and arrived at
Quebec

Quebec upon the 15th of *September* following; we remained there some days, after which having taken our Leave of Count *Frontenac* Governor-General of *Canada*, we sailed up the River *St. Laurence* to *Fort Frontenac*, where we landed.

That *Fort* lyes within 120 Leagues from *Quebec*, about the 44th Degree of Latitude; on the Mouth of a Lake called likewise *Frontenac* or *Ontario*, which is near 300 Leagues about, and has a communication with four other Lakes; much of the same extent. All those Lakes are Navigable, and plentifully stored with Fish; The Mouth, or entrance of this Lake is defended by a *Fort* with four large Bastions, which might protect a great number of Vessels against the attempts of any Enemy. As *M. La Salle* had Erected this *Fort*; the King had given him the Propriety thereof, and of all the Lakes thereabouts with their dependencies. The Country about it is so Charming, that it is impossible to describe its Beauties. The vast Meadows are intermixed with Woods and Forests, full of all sorts of Fruit-Trees, and watered with fine Brooks and Rivers.

It was in this place that we prepared our selves for our great Voyage, and Glorious Undertaking, of which no body, I am sure, can give a better account than my self, not only because I accompanied the said *M. La Salle*, but also because the chief Care and Burthen of that Perilous, tho' Glorious Enterprize, fell upon me by the untimely Death of that Gentleman. The Account which I offer now to the Publick, is extracted out of the Journal I kept, wherein I set down things as they appeared to me: 'Tis true, I am sometimes obliged to take things upon Trust, because I could not be always with *M. La Salle*, but I am so fully convinced of the Probity and Honesty of those upon whose Evidence I have advanced any thing, that I may answer as well for their Observations as for my own. The Reader must not therefore expect here Noble and Pompous Descriptions, such as Authors use to adorn their Works with, but a natural simplicity, and a rigid fidelity. If my Stile seems harsh and unpolite, I have no other Apology for it, but that I may have contracted some thing from the Commerce

merce of the Savages of *America*, with whom I have so long conversed.

Whosoever considers this Enterprize in it self, the difficulties it was attended with, and the advantages that *Europe* may reap from the discovery of those vast Countries, which are above eighteen hundred Leagues North and South, will I hope agree, that an exact account thereof is worthy of the Curiosity of the Reader.

That large Country is now called by the name of *Louisiana*, since the French took possession thereof in the Name of *Lewis* the Great. The Soil is, generally speaking, so fertile, that it produces Naturally without any Culture, those Fruits that Nature and Art together have much ado to bring forth in *Europe*: They have two Crops every Year without any great fatigue; the Vines bring extraordinary Grapes, without the Care of the Husbandmen; and the Fruit-Trees need no Gardiners to look after them; the Air is every where temperate; the Country is watered with Navigable Rivers, and delicious Brooks and Rivulets, and diversified with Forests and Meadows; it is stockt with all sorts of Beasts, as Bulls, *Originals,*

nac's, Wolves, Lipes, Wild Affes, Stags, Goats, Sheep, Foxes, Hares, Beavers, Otters, Dogs, and all sorts of Fowls, which afford a plentiful Game for the Inhabitants. They have discovered Mines of Lead and Iron, and 'tis not doubted but there are also Mines of Gold and Silver, if they would give themselves the trouble to look for them, but the Inhabitants of those Countries valuing things only as far as they are necessary for Life, are yet unacquainted with the Fanciful Value we put upon those Metals, and have not dig'd up the Earth to look for them.

The Manners of the Inhabitants.

Those Inhabitants have nothing of Man but the Shape and the Name; they live without any Laws, Religion, Superiority, or Subordination, Independence and Liberty being their *Summum Bonum*, or the ultimate end they propose to themselves. Their Life is always wandering, having no settled Possessions; they take several Wives, if they please, whom they quit when they will, and leave them to others, just as they do their Habitations, for after having for some time cultivated a piece of Ground, they quit it without any occasion to Cultivate another, and the first

first comer takes possession thereof, so that they are perpetually changing their Habitations, and by this continual motion, every thing becomes in a manner common amongst them : they know no Superiority, and think the World is made only for them.

I said they have no Religion, tho' it ^{*Their Reli-*} seems they have an obscure Idea of God, ^{*gion.*} because they live as if they thought there was none. They believe in general that there is a God, but who does not concern himself in what they do. Some Worship the Sun, and others fancy that the World is full of certain Spirits, who preside over their Actions, and they are so extravagant as to believe, that every thing in the World has a Spirit, and that they are Good or Hurtful according to the *Caprice* of that Spirit. 'Tis upon this Principle that are grounded all the foolish Superstitions of their *Jugglers* or *Monitous*, who are their Priests or Magicians.

I don't believe that they have carried their Reflections so far, as to think on the Nature of their Souls; tho' 'tis true, they seem to believe their Immortality, and a kind of *Metempsychosis*, or Transmigration of Souls; but they have

so many extravagant fancies upon this Subject, that it is in a manner impossible to discover their true Opinion. I may say in general, that they are so stupid in matters of Religion, that they are not convinced of their own Belief, nor of what others believe, and therefore Laugh at the Instructions of our Missionaries.

*Their Good
qualities.*

However, notwithstanding that brutish temper, they have as good a Sense as the rest of Mankind, to know their true Interests, and therefore are capable of Negotiations, Commerce, and Counsel. They know how to weigh and consider the Consequences of an Enterprize, and take just Measures to compass it. When they meet together to consult about some great Design, they sit in a private place, in a profound Silence, smoking Tobacco, and every one speaks gravely in his turn. It is to be observed by the by, that they never make any Treaty, Convention or Agreement with any body, till they have first of all, mutually exchanged Presents. They give commonly Collars as the Symbol of Union; they have a particular Kettle for Peace, and another for War. They proclaim Peace with
the

the *Calumet*, and War by great Outcries, or rather dreadful Howlings.

They know likewise how to Incamp, ^{*Their Science in War.*} and Fortifie their Camps with Intrenchments and Pallisadoes. They observe also some Order in their Attacks.

This Soil produces indifferently all ^{*Their Tillage.*} sorts of Corn and Plants, but as they have observed, that some among them are more proper for their Nourishment than others, they take care to Sow and Cultivate them, and therefore they have great Crops of *Indian Corn*, of which they make a sort of very delicious and nourishing Pap. They Cultivate also what they call *Touquo*, of which they make their *Cassave*, and Turneps, where-with they make *Cassamite*. These are their own terms, which are not to be translated. There are in their Country ^{*Their Physick.*} several sorts of Trees, from which an excellent Balsam drops, the use where-of the Savages know very well, as also of several Plants against Wounds, and the venomous bitings or stinging of Serpents and other Creatures.

Their Knowledge is not circumscrib- ^{*Their Astronomy.*} ed within those narrow bounds, they carry it as far as Heaven, and have obtained a sufficient Knowledge of the Course

Course of the Sun, Moon and Planets, and pretend thereby to foretel the changes of the Weather, Winds, Storms, and other things of this nature.

Their Dexterity.

Besides those qualities already mentioned, they have a wonderful dexterity at several beautiful and useful Works: Some of them make extraordinary fine Mats for their Coverings, and adorning their Cabins; others have found the way to Dress Leather to make Wastecoats and Shoes; but their greatest dexterity appears, in my opinion, in the structure of their *Canoos* which can never sink. They make them with the Barks of Elm, Walnut-trees or Elder-trees, about 10 or 12 Foot long, the side being a little turned inward as *Gondolas*. Instead of Oars they make use of two pieces of Wood, like two Bakers Peals, and term *Swimming* what we call *Rowing*. As their *Canoos* draw very little Water, because of their lightness, the Savages *Swim* with an extraordinary swiftness, even against the stream of Rivers, and undertake very long Voyages without fearing Rocks or Storms.

Their Travels by Land.

Tho' there are neither Road nor Path in that Country, they Travel through these vast Forests and Wilderesses, with

with the help of certain Marks they make upon the Rind of Trees from place to place ; and by these means, the Women and Children are able to find the Men when they go a Hunting, or upon any Expedition. They very seldom bring home what they kill, and it is the Office of their Wives to fetch it and dress it.

I think fit to add, in this Place, a *Their Cabins.* short Account of their Cabins, Household-Goods, and the like. Many of them are wandering in Woods, where they lie upon the Ground as Beasts ; but such who live together, make Cabins, or Huts, with Branches of Trees driven into the ground, interlaced with others, and joined at the top as close as possible, and covered with Reeds, or large Leaves of Trees. The inside looks somewhat better, it is well-enough Matted, and most of them have a sort of curious Floor.

Their Bedsteads are made up with *Their Beds.* some pieces of wood, upon which they lay skins full of Wool or Straw ; but for their Covering, they use the finest sort of Skins, or else Mats finely wrought.

They

Their Kitchen Utensils.

They have Cellars, or rather Holes, to preserve their Corn, their Wood, and other Provisions ; but all their Kitchen Utensils consists in some few pieces of Earthen-Ware, which they make with Clay, and harden it with the Dung of Bulls. They have no sorts of Mills, but instead thereof, use to grind their Corn between two Stones, with a great deal of trouble. They make use of a sort of sharp Stones instead of Knives ; but this must be understood of such Savages, who never had any Commerce with Europeans.

Their Arms.

They use Bows and Arrows with great dexterity, and the extremity of their Arrow is arm'd, instead of Iron, with a sharp Stone, or the Tooth of some Animal. They have besides heavy Clubs, or sharp Sticks, instead of Swords or Halberds. They use also wooden Corslets against Arrows, and make Bucklers with several skins stitched together.

Their Apparel.

Most of them go stark Naked, and are so inured to Rain, and other Hardships, that their bodies are almost insensible ; and the soles of their Feet so hard, as to resist the sharpness of Thorns and Stones. Their Women have

have still preserved a shadow of Modesty, for they wear commonly about their waste a large Girdle, from which hang two pieces of skin, which cover in some manner their Nakedness. I speak of those Savages who Inhabit a Temperate Climate, for those who live to the Northward of *Quebec*, and other cold Countries, cover themselves with skins of Bears, Stags, Ellends, and the like. I must observe also, that those who Inhabit toward *Mexico*, seem more civilized than others; for tho' their Climate is pretty Hot, they cover themselves with Mats finely wrought.

The care of the Family lies equally upon the Husband and the Wife: The former goes a Fishing or Hunting for the Family; and the Wife Tills the ground, and gets in what she has sow'd. It is likewise her Duty to fetch Fruit, Herbs, and other things in the Woods. When the Savage is come back from Hunting, he takes first of all his Pipe, and as he smoaks, tells his Wife what he has done, and what he would have her to do, which she must obey without any reluctance.

One may observe in Men a great Gravity and Authority, and in Women

The care of the Family divided between the Husband & the Wife.

Character of the Savages.

an

an extraordinary Complaisance for their Husbands, and as they follow their Natural Instinct in every thing they do, their Behaviour is always sincere and without any affectation ; and one may truly say, That the conjugal Union between them, is the effect of a Natural Inclination, which is common to Men and to Brutes, and not founded upon a true Friendship.

of Women in particular.

The Savages being perpetually in Action, they are free from several Diseases that the *Europeans* are subject to, and 'tis observable, that these Women have not that natural Incommodity that ours are liable unto, and that, which is still more to be wonder'd at, they bring forth without any Pain, or at least without any ceremony as they go along, making no other Provision for it, than their own girdle, and some Skins to wrap up the Child into.

The Breeding of their Children.

They have a very extraordinary way to bring up their Children, for though they have no Clouts or Swath-Bands, they have found a way to keep them very clean without any great Trouble. They provide themselves with a good quantity of Dust of rotten Wood, which is as soft as any Down whatsoever, and is

very

very good to preserve them against Humidity. They lay their Children upon that Dust, and wrap them into some good Furs, and tie them pretty fast, and have nothing to do for dressing them, but to change that Dust, by means whereof they keep them always clean, till they are able to walk about.

They Feed them with Pap, made *How they feed them.* with *Indian* Corn, and give them as soon as they can walk ; so that they use themselves to shoot, and follow their Parents into the Woods, learning hereby betimes the usual Places for hunting ; and having no manner of Education, they are only guided by their natural Inclination and Sensuality, as beasts.

I should never make an End, should undertake to give a particular Account of all the Customs of the Savages ; but think that what I have said is sufficient to convince the Reader, that their Intelligence extends only to what is Necessary for supporting their Natural Life ; and that if they have any Law amongst them, it is to observe none at all. Born and bred up in Forrests, Hunting is their greatest Pastime, to which may add War, Quarrels, and Cruelty, which

which is such, that they must turn their Arms against harmless Beasts, when they want Pretences or Opportunities, to use them against Men.

Mr. La
Salle un-
dertakes
with 30
Men to
Travel
through
those Na-
tions.

It was through those Wild Nations that Mr. *La Salle* undertook to Travel, and discover a Way to the Gulph of *Mexico*; and whosoever will impartially consider that Enterprize, must agree, that this courageous Design can hardly be parallell'd. But this will appear the better, if they consider what Preparations he made for that great Journey. He had only *Thirty* Men, as I have already said, without any other Provisions, but Powder and Shot, which were to supply him during his Voyage. We had first of all a Bark, and some Canoos, but we were soon deprived of that help, and forc'd to Travel by Land, and carry our Equipage, crossing large Rivers upon Rafts, or Trees, having no other Guide through those vast unknown Countries but a Compass, and the Genius of our Commander, who (according to the variation of the Needle, and the Knowledge he had in Astronomy) was able to guess at the Climate we were in, and what course we were to follow.

These

These Difficulties, the Armies of Savages, which we were obliged to Fight to force our way, Hunger, Thirst, and other Wants and Perils, were however surmounted by our Courage and Constancy, so that we arriv'd at the Gulph of *Mexico*, and after several Misfortunes returned Home. But before I proceed any further, I think fit to give an Account of the *Four Lakes* I have already mentioned.

The *First* lies above the 47 Degree of Latitude, and is called *Upper Lake*, or of *Frontenac*, and may be 80 Leagues broad, and 300 in circuit. It has communication with the Lake *Herie*, or of *Conti*, by a Canal of above 20 Leagues long, interrupted by a Fall of 600 Foot high, known under the Name of *Fall of Niagara*. This Lake of *Conti* joins with another called *The Lake of the Hurons*, or of *Orleans*, by a Canal or stream which is very Rapid, and this last Lake has communication to the South with a *Fourth*, called, *The Lake of the Illinois*, or of the *Dauphin*: It joins also by the *North-side* with another Lake, larger than any of the rest, called, *The Lake of Conde*; but we did not see it.

C

Having

We Sail
from Fort
Frontenac.

Having Refreshed our selves about a Fortnight at Fort *Frontenac*, we embarked on the 18th. of *November*, 1678. on Board a Vessel of 40 Tunns, to cross the first Lake I have mentioned, and this was the First Ship that ever Sail'd upon this Fresh Water Sea. The Wind being very contrary, we spent a whole Month before we could arrive at a Village called *St. Onnontouane*, where Mr. *La Salle* sent some Canoos to fetch *Indian* Corn for our subsistence; and from thence we continued our Course towards *Niagara*, but the Stream being too rapid, and the Wind contrary, we were obliged to cast an Anchor about 9 Leagues from that Place, whither we went by Land. *Niagara* is a Village of the *Iroquois*, situated upon the Lake of *Conti*, near the wonderful Fall I have taken Notice of.

An Ac-
count of
the Iro-
quois.

This Nation, the most Warlike and Cruel of all the *Americans*, is possessed of a Tract of Land from *Montreal*, or rather from the place where the Two Rivers, which form that of *St. Laurence*, meet, to the further end of the Lake of *Conti*, which is about Two Hundred Leagues to the South. This Nation is very Ambitious to command their

their Neighbours; and when they hear of any other Nation which grows powerful, either by the Number of their fighting Men, or by the extent of their Possessions, they march to subdue them, and they make sometimes Excursions three or four hundred Leagues. They are indefatigable, undaunted in the greatest danger; and of such a fierce Courage and Constancy, as to be proof against the most exquisite Torments, When taken by their Enemies, rather than betray the Designs of their Country-men: They never ask, and seldom give Quarter. They drink the Blood of their Enemies, and add to their great Cruelty, all the Stratagems, Subtilty and precaution, that one might expect from Experienc'd Soldiers.

This Nation, tho' Fierce and Cruel, as I have represented them, receiv'd us very kindly. We laid one Night in their Village, and went the next Day to view a proper place, above Three Leagues higher, to Build a Fort, and having found an advantageous Situation, M. De la Salle laid the Foundation of it, and ordered his Men to Work upon it with all imaginable Diligence; but the *Jroquois* taking some Jealousie at

They receive kindly the French.

it; it was thought fit to desist, to avoid giving Offence to so dangerous an Enemy; and therefore we contented ourselves to fortifie our Magazine with strong Palisadoes.

M. *la Salle* had given orders for Building a new Ship or great Bark, and our Men workt about it with all the diligence that the Season of the Year could permit; but the cold was so excessive, that not only Rivers, but even those vast Lakes were frozen all over, inso-much that they look'd like a Plain pav'd with fine polish'd Marble. We traded in the mean time with the Natives, and got a great number of Furs; but several things being wanting to continue our Voyage, this couragious Gentleman resolv'd to return by Land to Fort *Frontenac*, and come back again in the Spring with a new supply of Ammunition and Merchandise, to trade with the Nations he intended to visit. He sent likewise fifteen Men further into the Country, with orders to endeavour to find out the *Illinois*, and left his Fort of *Niagara*, and fifteen Men under my command. One of the *Recollects* continued with us.

The Winter being over, a Bark arrived from

from Fort *Frontenac*, with Ammunition and Merchandises, but it was stav'd to pieces against the Coast, by the fault of the Pilot, however most of the Effects were sav'd; and soon after, *M. la Salle* arrived, who immediately renewed his Commerce with the *Iroquois*, and endeavoured to give them some Idea of the Power of the King, that they might have some respect for his Subjects. This new Ship being near finished, he sent me with five Men to view the Coast, and the Country to the North side of the Lake, above 120 Leagues from *Niagara*. We Embarked in our Canoes, and having rowed two days, or rather swom, to use the stile of the Savages, arrived to the straight of the Lake *Hériè*.

This straight or Canal, by which the Lake *Hériè* joins with that of the *Hurons*, is about Thirty Leagues long. I landed to the North side, and enquired for the Men *M. la Salle* had sent before; but hearing they were gone higher, I advanced into the Country in hopes to find them; and this gave me an opportunity to take an exact survey of that delicious Peninsula, which has almost the form of an Heart, by reason of the three Lakes already mentioned.

Having made all the Observations I thought necessary both as to the Canal between the two Lakes, and the nature of the Soil, I returned to give an account thereof to M. *la Salle*, who, before my arrival, was gone back to Fort *Fron-tenac* with a considerable quantity of Furs, from whence he returned to *Niagara*, on the Seventh of *August*, 1679, with a fresh supply of Ammunition and Provisions, and three *Recollects*. The Spring and most part of the Summer were thus spent in frequent goings and comings, which however are absolutely necessary in order to make a good and lasting Settlement.

Our Bark being finished, and every thing ready for our departure, we sail'd towards the middle of *August*, and having happily crossed the Lake *Heriè*, got into that of the *Hurons*, which, as it has been already said, is much larger than the other two. We met there with a dreadful Storm, as great as any that I ever heard of upon the Ocean, or any other Sea, but we had the good Fortune to find a good Road called *Missilimachinac*. It is an *Isthmus*, or neck of Land about Twenty Leagues broad, and 120 long, between the Lake of the *Hu-*

rons and that of the *Illinois*, which is one of the finest situations in the World; and besides the prodigious fertility of the Soil, and all sorts of Game, the Inhabitants have an extraordinary plenty of Fish.

M. la Salle took an exact survey of that fine Country, and having marked out a Fort for our security, sent me, with some others, towards the North-East, to observe the Fall *St. Mary*, and endeavour to discover some of our Deserters. This Fall forms two Canals, and a pretty large Island, which being re-united, make a very Rapid River, by which the Lake of the *Hurons* has communication with another much larger than all the rest. I went a-shore upon the Northern Coast of the Lake *Huron*, and advanced through a most delicious Country, as far as the River *Onta*, which coming out of that great Lake, runs about a Hundred Leagues, and falls into the River *St. Laurence*. The charming Prospect of the Banks of that River, made the Fatigues I suffer'd very easie to me, tho I had no other Provisions than what I could kill with my Gun. I spent Eight Days in my Journey, and from thence went in-

to the Southern Canal I have spoken of where I Landed. I discover'd there a large Plain between the Lake of the *Hurons* and that of the *Illinois*, and a fine Settlement belonging to the Jesuits. I found there also our Deserters, who appear'd, at first, very stubborn and disaffected, but were at last perswaded to return with me to *Missilimachinac*, where I understood that M. la Salle had Sailed from thence towards the end of *September*, for the Bay of *Puans*, where he arriv'd the 8th of *October*, as I have been informed since.

Bay of
Puans.

This Bay of *Puans* is formed by an overflowing of the Lake of the *Illinois*, occasion'd by a great River, which falls into this Lake. This River call'd *Oniscencing* comes from another Lake about 100 Leagues distant; from which comes another River, which falls into the *Mississipi*; and therefore this Lake may be lookt upon as a Communication between *Canada* and the Gulph of *Mexico*, as one may see by the Map.

M. la Salle being arrived in that Bay, took some new measures, and sent back his Bark, laden with Furs, to *Niagara*, and embarked again in Canoes with seventeen Men and a *Recollet*, to go to the

the further end of the Lake of the *Illinois*, where he arrived the first of *November*, 1679, and landed at the Mouth of the River of the *Miamis*.

This Country lies between the 35 and 40 degrees of Latitude; is bounded to the *East* by *Virginia* and *Florida*; and on the other side by the *Iroquois* and the *Illinois*. The Soil is very fertile, and produces all sorts of Corn and Fruit; it abounds also in Cattle and Fish. *M. la Salle* visited the Inhabitants, and finding their Temper tractable, endeavoured to gain their Friendship by Presents. They exchanged some Merchandises, and *M. la Salle* managed this Trade with so much prudence and dexterity, as to convince them, it would be a greater advantage for them to Trade with the *French* than with the *English* or the *Iroquois*.

However, as he observed that this Nation was inconstant, and easily imposed upon, he thought fit to build a Fort for his Security, and to make there a kind of Magazine for the execution of his further Designs, which was accordingly done with all convenient speed, *M. la Salle* having chosen an advantageous Situation at the Mouth of the River.

The

The Country of the
Miamis.

The impatience I had to re-join M. *la Salle* with the fifteen Men I had brought back to their Duty, obliged me to make all the haste possible, but the want of Provisions, and the contrary Winds obliged us to land within Thirty Leagues of our Fort, where we found Acorns and some Staggs, wherewith we refreshed our selves. My Men were so harassed, that I could never perswade them to imbarck again the same day, which obliged me to imbarck alone with our Pilots, promising them to return speedily. The Weather being very stormy, we spent six days before we could reach the Fort *Miamis*, where I gave an Account to M. *la Salle* of my Discoveries. He received me very kindly, but told me withal, that he had been better pleased to see me arrived with all his Men.

These last words seem'd to me a Command, and therefore after having refreshed my self, I went again into my Canoo, but I was hardly Fifteen Leagues off, that I was met by a violent Storm, in which our Canoo was overturned and then set to rights again, and at last driven upon the shore, from whence we went over Land to meet
our

our Men at the place appointed. We arrived there the next Morning, and having spent the rest of the Day to get them together, embarked again, and came in less than one day to Fort *Miamis*.

M. *la Salle* was very glad to see his Men together, looking upon this Recruit as a necessary Supply to carry on his Designs, and yet these very Men disappointed them, and some time after put an end to his Discoveries, and to his Life, so that the Men alone, upon whom he grounded his hopes, were the only cause of all the Misfortunes that befell him, and of the Tragical end of his Life.

M. *la Salle* having in less than two Months put his Fort in a good posture of Defence, as well to protect his Barks, and Canoos, as to defend himself against the Natives on the Land side, and engaged the chief of the Nation into his Interests, resolved to advance as far as the *Illinois*, whose nearest Habitation was above 100 Leagues from our Fort.

The only way to go to them, was to Embark upon a River, which springing from a Hill within six Leagues of the Lake of the *Illinois*, becomes Navigable above Forty Leagues from our Fort, and falls

*River of the
Illinois.*

falls into the *Mississipi*, after a course of 200 Leagues. We left our Fort and the Country of the *Miamis* in the beginning of *December*, leaving only ten Men to secure our Magazines; and having carried our Canoes and Equipage over Land, arrived four days after upon the River of the *Illinois*, where we Embarked to the number of Forty four Persons, without reckoning Three *Recollects*. We fell down the said River, by easie Journeys, the better to observe that Countrey, and supply our selves with Provisions. The Banks of that River are as charming to the Eye, as useful for Life. The Meadows, Fruit-Trees, and Forests, affording every thing that is necessary for Men and Beasts, so that being amused by that agreeable variety, we spent six days from the *Portage* (that is the place where we Embarked) to the first Village of the *Illinois*, called *Pontdalaria*, consisting of above 500 Cabins, where we found no Inhabitants. We went ashore, and viewed their Cabins or Cottages, which are made with great pieces of Timber, interlac'd with Branches, and cover'd with Bark. The inside is more neat, the Walls or sides, as well as the Floor, being finely matted.

Every

A Village of
the Illinois

Every Cottage has two Appartments, wherein several Families might lodge, and under every one of them there is a Cave or Vault, wherein they preserve their *Indian-Corn*, of which we took a sufficient quantity, because we wanted Provisions.

We continued our Voyage, and above Thirty Leagues lower fell into a Lake or Pond above seven Leagues in Circuit, where we caught excellent Fish; and following the stream, fell again into the Channel of the River, and found our selves between two Bodies of Savages, who were Encamped on both sides the River. They had no sooner discovered us, but they run to their Arms, and put themselves in order of Battel, after having sent their Wives and Children into the Woods. We put our selves likewise in good posture, and brought our Canoos upon a Line, and advanced towards the Shore in that order. The *Illinois* observing our Countenance, and being naturally inclin'd to Peace, contented themselves to ask us, who we were? We answered by our Interpreter, that we were Subjects to the King of *France*, and come to make them know the Master of Heaven and Earth, and offer

The Illinois put themselves in order of Battel.

offer them the Protection of our great Monarch; adding, that if they would put themselves under his Protection, they should live happily, and free from the Insults of their Enemies. We told them besides, that though their Country was plentiful, they wanted Industry to enjoy the Advantages of it, and therefore offer'd them our own, provided they would have Commerce with us. The *Illinois* having heard our Answer and Proposals, received us not as Savages use to do, but as Men well-bred and civiliz'd. They express'd as much as they could, their Veneration for our King; they presented us the *Calumet*, the Signal or Badge of Peace among all those Nations, as it has been already observed. They use the word of *Singing* or *Dancing* the *Calumet*. When they sing it, they drive a Pole into the Ground, and every one brings in that place what he hath taken from the Enemy, of which they make a kind of Trophy, and sing about it their Warlike Expeditions and glorious Feats. They call *Dancing* the *Calumet*, when they Dance about that Trophy after the Singing is over.

*They accept
our Propo-
sals.*

We

We answer'd their Ceremonies and complements by all the demonstrations of Joy we could think on, and some presents as tokens of our Friendship. We told them, that Necessity had forc'd us to take some *Indian* Corn out of their Village, for which we gave them some Toys and Brandy. This Convinc'd them of our Sincerity, and sending for their Wives and Children, made preparations to entertain us with all the Solemnity and Magnificence they are capable of, with Beef and Stag, and all sorts of Venison and Fowls. We were very liberal on our side of our Brandy, that the Feast lasted three whole days; during which, we made several Discharges of our Arms, at which they were delighted, but our good Words and kind expressions confirmed them in the good opinion they had of us. The familiar titles of Brothers, Friends, and Comrades were not forgotten; and even some of us were Adopted into the chief families amongst them; so that through the natural Inconstancy of the *Americans*, we discover'd in the *Illinois*, a great Humanity, and a good disposition to Civil Society,

They entertain us.

They

*Character
of the Illi-
nois.*

They are naturally Caressing, Flatterers, and Complaisant, but on the other side Cunning, and dexterous at all Exercises. They are generally speaking well shaped, strong, and of a brown or tawny Complexion. Hunting is their great Delight, which makes them indocible. They love Women with excess, and Boys above Women, so that they become by that horrid Vice, very effeminate. 'Tis observable however that notwithstanding that vicious Inclination, they have several Laws to punish that infamous Vice. For as soon as a Boy has prostituted himself, he is degraded in a manner of his Sex, being forbidden to wear the Apparel or Name of Man, and to make any Office or Function fit for Men, even nor so much as to be suffered to go a Hunting. They are therefore look'd upon as Women and confin'd to their Employments, of whom they are even more slighted and hated than by Men; insomuch that these Wretches become, by their Crime the scorn and contempt of both Sexes. Thus without any help, but natural Reason, they are sensible of their Crime and have made these Laws as a Bridle to master their brutish sensuality, tho

as I have said before, they hate all manner of restraint; they marry several Wives, and to preserve Peace and Union in their Families, they marry commonly Sisters or near Relations. They are very Jealous, and punish the Infidelity of their Wives with a great severity. *Hermaphrodites* are very common amongst them, but whether it be an effect of the Climate or no, I do not pretend to determine. Women, and the prostituted Boys I have spoken of, work fine Mats for hanging their Cottages, while Men go a Hunting or till the Ground for sowing of *Indian* Corn. Their Country is situated along the River, which bears their Name, and are dispersed in several Villages. This contains about 1500 Souls, amongst whom we computed 500 fighting Men.

M. La Salle being sensible of the strength of this Nation, thought that nothing was to be neglected to keep them in amity with us; but at the same time that it was necessary to provide our selves against their Inconstancy. Therefore he ordered a Fort to be built upon a rising ground near the River, which was in a little time in a posture of defence. However he was in great pain for his

*A Fort
built.*

D
Bark,

Bark which he had sent back from the Bay of *Puans* to *Niagara*, of which he had no manner of News. This, together with the malice of some of our Men, made him so melancholy, that the Pale-ness of his Face betrayed the grief of his Heart; but as he was very Couragious, he concealed it as well as possible, contenting himself to manifest it by the Name of *Crevecœur* (breaking Heart) which he gave to his Fort.

We had however hitherto no great cause of Complaint; we had happily carried on our Discovery to 500 Leagues beyond Fort *Frontenac*, and made several Forts for the Communication and Security of our Settlements. Most of the Savages were entred into our Alliance, and the fiercest among them, had not so much as offer'd to stop our Progress, so that we found no Enemies but our selves, and our own Divisions, which proved at last a fatal source of great Misfortunes and Miseries.

Murmurings of the French.

Most of our Men being discouraged by a long and tedious Voyage, the end whereof they could not see, and weary of a wandering Life in Forests and Desarts, where they had no other Company but Brutes, and Savages, without

out any Guide, Carriage, and Provisions could not forbear murmuring against the Author of so tiresome and perillous an Enterprife. M. La Salle, whose penetration was extraordinary, discover'd immediately their dissatisfaction, and try'd all possible means to prevent the consequences thereof. The glory of the Enterprife, the exemple of the *Spaniards*, the hopes of a great Booty, and every thing else that may engage Men, we made use of to incourage them, and inspire them with better Sentiments; but these Exhortations, like Oil poured upon Fire, served only to increase their dissatisfaction. What said they? must we always be Slaves to his *Caprichio's*, and be continually bubbld by his Visions, and foolish Expectations? and must the Fatigues we have hitherto undergone be used as an Argument to oblige us to go through more Perils, to gratifie the Ambition or Folly of a merciless Man, who upon fair pretences has transplanted us into this new World amongst Brutes. We are very far from our Country, without Provisions or any other help; but our case shall be ten times worse, if we follow the wandring Inclinations of a Man,

who is resolved to go to the further end of the World. He has made himself Rich by our Perils, and to our own loss; what then have we to do, but to put a stop, by his Death, to our further Miseries, and take possession of what he has gained by our Fatigues? These were the Arguments these Villains used to encourage themselves to the horrid Crime they had resolved upon; but having, upon second thoughts, considered the consequences of their violent Designs, they thought it would be more safe to incite the *Illinois* against him, that he might perish by their Hands.

The Artifices of the Malecontents.

To compass that villainous Design, they made a shew of an extraordinary Friendship to the Savages, and let them know, that by reason of the good Entertainment they had received from them, they thought themselves oblig'd to acquaint them with the dangers they were threatned with. They told them that M. La Salle was in a strict Alliance with the *Iroquois*, their ancient and implacable Enemies; that he was advanced into their Country to discover their Situation and Strength; that the Fort he had built was to bridle them; and that the Voyage he pretended to make

make to Fort *Frontenac*, was in order to acquaint the *Iroquois* with their Condition, and conduct them into their Country, to destroy altogether their Nation, having agreed together to share the Booty amongst them; concluding, that having revealed to them the wicked Designs of their Commander, they left it to their own prudence, to take what measures they should think necessary for their Security.

'Tis very easie to guess what impression such a Discovery wrought upon a Weak and Credulous People, who believed without any further Inquiry, whatever our Villains had told them. They broke off immediately their Society with us, and lookt upon us, but chiefly upon our Chief, as their greatest Enemies, and resolved upon our Ruin. M. *La Salle* suspected the cause of their Mistrust, and was sensible of the danger he was exposed to, but did not know from whence it came. His great Courage was not however cast down, and trusting to his good Conscience, went boldly to the Chief of the Savages, and told them, That he observed such an alteration in their proceedings with him, that he could not but be con-

cerned at it; and therefore desir'd them to tell him the Motives of their Mistrust, and to consider whether they were well groundd, or only an Artifice of their common Enemies, who were jealous of the good Correspondence that was between them.

And how
they were
discovered.

The *Illinois* could not refuse that reasonable Demand, and therefore told him, that his own Men had discover'd his Designs against them, in conjunction with the *Iroquois*. M. La Salle, tho' surpriz'd at the Perfidiousness and Treachery of his Men, made use of such convincing Arguments, to prove the Malice of his Accusers and his Innocence, together with the impossibility of his League with a Cruel Nation, who is bound by no Law nor Sense of Humanity; that the *Illinois* were perswaded of the sincerity of his Intentions, and of the Motive of his Enemies, and therefore we became Friends again.

The arrival
of Mausolea.

The Calm was hardly settled, but that it was disturbed by a more dangerous storm than the former, by the arrival of one *Mausolea*, a secret Emissary of the *Iroquois*, of the neighbouring Nation of the *Mascoutans*, a Cunning Seditious and Eloquent Man. This pretend-

ed

ed Embassador arriv'd in the Camp of the *Illinois* during the Night, and having gain'd the chief of them, the Council was called, where *Mausolea* having displayed his Presents, acquainted the Assembly with the motives of his Embassy. He told them that it was not the Interest alone of his Nation and theirs, but rather of all the *Americans*, ^{His Discourse.} which had occasion'd his Deputation, seeing that they were informed that the *French* were come with a Design to subdue the whole Country of the Northern *America* to the Gulph of *Mexico*; that to succeed therein, we pretended not only to make use of our own Forces, but likewise of the *Americans* themselves; that in order thereunto, we had contracted a strict Alliance with the *Iroquois* their common Enemies: That the Fort we had erected on their River, was the beginning of our Tyranny, and a place of Refuge 'till the arrival of our Confederates: That if they expected any longer, and gave us time to join together, their Miseries should be past remedy, and therefore advised them to prevent us, and destroy us whilst it was in their power.

The crafty
Contrivance of
the Illinois.

These Calumnies of *Mausolea* made a great impresson on the credulous *Illinois*, and so much the more, because his Accusation agreed exactly with what our own Men had told them. But doubtless the Reader expects an Account of the Reason that put the *Iroquois* upon this Villainous trick ; and if we remember what has been already said of the Character of that barbarous Nation, 'tis easie to discern, that they were afraid that the *Illinois* would grow too powerful by their Commerce with us, and be enabled by the use of Fire-arms, to make head against them, and therefore they made use of this *Mausolea* to Accuse us as he did, in order to incense the *Illinois* against our Nation, and prevent thereby our Settlement in the Country.

M. *La Salle*, who relyed upon the Faith of the late Reconciliation, knew nothing of this new Storm ; and having no other Thoughts than to settle his Union with the *Illinois*, rose very early, and went directly to the Camp of the *Illinois* with his best Friend, where he was mightily surpriz'd to see a general Uproar, and that no body would speak with him. The Conjunction was very

very nice, and therefore M. *la Salle* was in a great perplexity, and did not know what to do. Some were of Opinion to retire into the Fort 'till this new Treachery was discover'd, but he would not hearken to this Advice, lest his Retreat should confirm the Accusation of his Enemies; and took a Resolution more worthy of himself, tho' more dangerous. He went up boldly to the Assembly of the Chief of the Nation, and expressed himself as well as he could in their own Language, and much to this effect.

Friends,

I Cannot but wonder at your Inconstancy; Mr. la Salle's Speech to the Illinois.
 we parted very good Friends last Night,
 and this Morning I find you almost in Arms
 against me; no body speaks to me, and every
 body threatens me: What new Crime have
 I committed? or rather by what new Impo-
 rtor have you been incensed against me? I
 surrender my self, and therefore if ever I
 have acted against the Interest of your Na-
 tion, you may do what you please, I am at
 your mercy. The Savages considering
 his Speech, and his Countenance, were
 almost perswaded with his Innocence,
 and told him the Subject of the Em-
 bassie

bassie of *Mausolea*, who was at that time present, whereupon M. la Salle directed his Speech to him in this manner *You accuse me of an Alliance with a Barbarous and Treacherous Nation, but where are your Proofs? If you have any? speak out; but if you have none, do you think the Illinois will believe your malicious Contrivances.*

Mausolea had certainly no Proof, but endeavoured to make out his Accusation by some Circumstances; as his former Commerce with the *Iroquois*; the Fort he had built upon the River of the *Illinois*; and his return to Fort *Frontenac*, concluding that though these were no direct Proofs, yet they were substantial Indications of his Design. It was very easie for M. la Salle to answer his Arguments, and to shew that the *Iroquois*, being jealous of their good Correspondence, and sensible that their Union would enable them to make head against them; had hir'd this Emissary to create these Divisions. He advised them to consider every thing, and how the *Iroquois* had subdued, by their Artifices, the *Miamis*, the *Quiaquons*, and the *Mascoutans*, who sent this pretended Advice
and;

therefore exhorted to weigh every
g, and enquire into the Embassie,
he suspected *Mausolea* was sent by the
Iroquois, and not by his own Nation;
ring them, in the mean time, that
was come to protect them against the
Iroquois and their other Enemies.

These Reasons being accompanied *The effect*
in the assuredness which a good *of his Dis-*
life inspires, had all the expected ef- *course.*
; insomuch that *Mausolea* himself,
of Fear, or remorse of Conscience,
fess'd, that the *Iroquois* had spread
Reports among the *Mascontans*, on
pose to excite a general Insurrection
inst us, and owned that the safety of
Illinois, and of his own Nation, de-
ded on their Union with us; where-
on the *Illinois* made us all the Pro-
ations in the World, that they would
er renounce our Alliance, nor give
any more to the Suggestions of our
nmon Enemies.

This Peace and good Correspondence *M. la Sal-*
ng thus happily restor'd, *le divides*
n'd all his Thoughts towards his *his Men;*
terprise, and finding himself near the
at River *Mississipi*, he resolved to di-
e his Men to carry on at once his
coveries to the *North* and to the
South,

South, by means of that River, reserving for himself to fall down to the Sea, and to send some body else toward the source of the River. But as he was thus preparing himself, his Treacherous Men plotted to put a stop both to his Journey and to his Life, and to poison him and his best Friends at once. They pitched upon *Christmas-day* for acting this Villainy, and found means to put some Poison into the Pot, to cut off at one blow, all such as might have averred the Death of their Captain, and likewise to remain the sole Masters of the Fort, and of all the Effects that were therein.

*M. la Salle
Poisoned by
his Men.*

The Dinner was hardly over, the *M. la Salle* and his Friends found themselves very ill. They fell into Convulsions and other Symptoms, which discover'd the true cause of them; whereupon they took a Dose of good Treacle, and by this quick remedy prevented the effect of the Poison, in so much that all recover'd.

*They run
away.*

This was too plain to be denied, and too horrid to be forgiven, therefore the Rogues ran away to avoid the just punishment they deserv'd; and tho' *M. la Salle* sent after them, it was not possible

fib

to overtake them, the thick Forests
 giving them a fair opportunity to
 make their escape. The desertion of
 these Villains weaken'd our Band, but
 were soon recruited by several
 young Savages, who engag'd them-
 selves into our Service, and likewise
 some French Men who were dis-
 pers'd and wandering in the Woods,
 that our number was in a little time
 considerably increased.

Things being thus settl'd, M. la Salle
 apply'd himself to the execution of his
 project, and appointed Mr. Dacan for
 the Discovery of the Country along the
Mississipi, to the North-east, with four
 French Men, two Savages, and Father
Jouis a Recollect. He gave 'em Arms,
 ammunition, and some Merchandise
 for trade with the Nations. They Em-
 parted on the 28th of February 1680,
 and fell down the River of the *Illinois*
 to the *Mississipi*, and from thence went
 up that great River for 450 Leagues
 together to the North, and came with-
 in seven Leagues of its Source, landing
 now and then on both sides to view the
 Country, and by what Nation it was
 inhabited.

Mr. Dacan
 appointed
 for the dis-
 covery to
 the North

The source
of the Mis-
sissipi.

The *Mississipi* springs out of a Fountain on the top of a Hill in the Country of the *Iffati*, about the 50 degree of Latitude: It receives so many Rivolets that it becomes Navigable for Boats within six Leagues from its Source. The Country along its Banks is Inhabited by several Nations, as the *Hanetons*, *Iffati's*, *Oua*, *Tintonha*, and *Nadouestians* who received Mr. *Dacan* with all the kindness imaginable. He traded with them, and increased his number with several Savages, who offered to accompany him. He set up likewise the King's Arms about two Leagues from the source of the River, upon a great Tree in sight of those Nations, as a Mark that they became Subjects to his Majesty. He made also several Settlements and one, among the rest, among the *Iffati's* where some *French* Men desired to remain.

M. Dacan
takes possession
of that Coun-
try.

This Gentleman, charmed with the docility of these Nations, and engaged by the advantageous Trade that he met with there, advanced to the Lake of the *Arsenipoits*, which is about Thirty Leagues in Circuit. That Nation received our Men kindly, notwithstanding their natural fierceness, and they found

ended there an Habitation, and another among the *Chongaskabees*, or Nations of *Strong Men*, who are Neighbours of the *Arsenipoits*.

While Mr. *Dacan* was carrying on Discoveries, M. *la Salle* took his leave of the *Illinois*, to return to Fort *Illinois*.

Intenac, in order to get a new supply of Men and Ammunition, and likewise view in what condition were his Forts, Magazines and Settlements, and then the building of a new Ship, which he had order'd to be made. He went out the 8th of *November*, 1680, and three days after arrived to the Village of the *Illinois*, where he resolved to build another Fort on a rising ground, in order to command the *Miamis*, *Ouamis*, *Kikapous*, *Aisnous*, and *Mascons*; and to serve likewise for a Place of Refuge to the *French*. This Design, so prudent and advantagious, was however attended with some fatal Consequences, as we shall see hereafter.

Having taken all the observations that he thought necessary; he continued his Journey, and met, about two Leagues from the Village of the *Illinois*, two of his Men, whom he had sent two Months before to *Missilimachinat*, to endeavour to

M. la Salle takes leave of the Illinois.

A Treachery of two of his Men.

to get Intelligence of his new Ship. These Rogues pretended to have done their utmost, without having been able to Discover what was become of her, tho' they had burnt it themselves, after having sold the Effects that were on board to the *Iroquois*. M. la Salle suspected presently that it was lost, but however, appeared as unconcern'd as before, and sent me in a Letter a Draught of the Fort he had marked out, ordering me to work thereupon immediately.

These Villains, who had already sold us to the *Iroquois*, made a great haste in order to improve the absence of our Commander to their advantage, and delivered me the Letter of M. la Salle, which being very pressing, I went immediately to the place I was commanded to, exhorting my Men to Peace and Union, and leaving the Fort under the Command of the most Faithful. The place M. la Salle had pitched upon, was a Rock very high, the top of which was even and of a convenient space, so that it commanded the River, and the Country round about. I had already drawn some Lines, and made other preparations to build it, when I heard that the Villains had seduc'd and perverted mo

Our Fort
Plunder'd.

dismal Tidings, made a great search after those Rogues, and pursued them so closely, that part of them surrendered themselves, and the rest were taken. He caused the most Seditious to be Hang'd, and pardon'd the rest. He sent the Messenger back to me, with a promise of a quick Supply, and Orders to tarry for him in the Fort. A whole Year however elapsed in this expectation, but our number being increased, by the arrival of some *French* Men, and the conjunction of some Savages, we would have wanted nothing at all, had not a sad and unforeseen Accident disappointed our Measures.

*The Iro-
quois come
to attack
the Illi-
nois.*

Our loss was hardly repaired, when we fell into a greater danger; for in the Month of *September* 1687, we discovered, within a quarter of a League of the Camp of the *Illinois*, about 600 *Iroquois* armed with Bows, Swords, Halberds, and a great many of them with Fire-arms. This unexpected Army frightened the *Illinois*, and revived their suspicion of our Correspondence with their Enemies; and I must confess, I was in a great perplexity, knowing not what to do in so nice a juncture. However having determin'd my self, I did
whatever

Whatever I could to encourage the *Illinois*, and told them that I would go to the Camp of the *Iroquois*, and endeavour to bring them to Terms; assuring them, that if I could not succeed, I would share the danger they were in; but that they had no time to lose, and therefore advis'd them to send their Women and Children away, and put themselves in good posture of defence. This Proposal convinc'd them of the sincerity of our Intentions, and therefore they gave me an Interpreter, and one of their chief Men to accompany me, and be Witness of my Negotiation.

The Army of the *Iroquois* divided into two Bodies, and commanded by *Gancourte*, Chief of *Tsonnontouans*, and *Agoustot* Chief of the *Desouatages*, two experienc'd Generals. That of the *Illinois* was not 500 strong, and we were about upward of 25 *French* Men amongst them, divided in their Battalions, to encourage them by our Example, and keep them in the best order we could. I parted from our Army with my Interpreter, an *Illinois*, and two *French* Men, and advanced toward the *Iroquois*, whose left Wing moved, at the same time, to-

ward our Right, where our Men appeared very resolute, and prepar'd to make a vigorous Defence.

*A Custom
observ'd a-
mongst the
Savages.*

As soon as I came near them, they shot at us, but by chance none was wounded, whereupon I sent back the *Illinois*, and the two *French-men*, taking upon my self all the peril attending such a Deputation. As soon as I came at a convenient distance, I shewed a Collar, it being the Custom amongst the *Savages*, to make all their Proposals with Collars, the same being the Symbol of Peace, Union, and Alliance. I advanced upon the publick Faith of the Badge, but I was no sooner in the Camp, but I was seized by those Villains, one of whom took my Collar, whilst another design'd to stab me with a Knife, but it pleased God, that the Knife slid along one of my Ribs, which saved my Life. The most Rational, or rather the least Brutish of 'em, rescued me from their Hands, and after having stopt the Blood with a kind of Balsom, conducted me to the middle of their Camp with my Interpreter; where they asked me the Subject of my coming.

Tho

Tho' my strength was considerably
 weakened by the loss of my Blood, my *My Deputa-*
 courage was not cast down, neither *tion to the*
 was I daunted by their Number and *Iroquois.*
 threats. I complained therefore, first
 of their unjust Proceedings, and viola-
 tion of their Publick Faith; and then of
 their coming, without any provocation,
 to attack a Nation, which was in Con-
 sideracy, and under the Protection of
 the King of *France*, my Master; there-
 fore I intreated them to return home, if
 they had any respect for that Prince;
 and that they would look upon the *Il-*
linois as their Friends, since they were
 united with us, that whatsoever con-
 spired their Destruction, conspir'd our
 own. I told them besides, that they
 ought to consider the danger of their
 Enterprize; the *Illinois* being about six
 Hundred men, and the *French* above
 200; and that my Mediation and Ex-
 hortation to Peace, were not the effects
 of any Fear we had for them; conclu-
 ding, that I intreated them to make
 Peace with the *Illinois* in the Name of
 our King, and of *Count Frontenack* their
 Father; and that I should not complain
 of the loss of my Blood, if I was so hap-
 py as to succeed in my Negotiation.

The Success
of it.

While I was thus arguing, the two Armies were skirmishing; and some time after, an *Iroquois* came to give Advice to the General; that their Right Wing began to give ground, and that they had observed some *French* men among the *Illinois*, who had made a great fire upon them. This Advice came very unluckily for me; for the Savages were so incensed against me, that they presently talk'd of killing me. I was preparing my self to suffer every thing, but observing a young rash *Iroquois* standing behind me with a Razor in his Hand, and knowing the Custom of that Cruel Nation, which is to cut off their Enemies Head, and then take off the Hair and Skin like a Cap, which is amongst them the greatest Trophy, I did not doubt but this young Warrior had a great fancy to my Hair, which he touch'd now and then, and lest he should do it too soon, I told him, that he ought, at least, to expect the Orders of his Masters. *Tagancourte* would have me put to death, but *Agoustot* being a particular Friend of M. La Salle, opposed the other General, and by a kind of Miracle, Mercy perhaps, for the first time, prevail'd with this Barbarous Na-

tion;

on; and it was resolved to send me back to the *Illinois*, and tell them they were disposed to a sincere Peace and Union, giving me a fine Collar of *Porcelain*, as a Token of their sincerity. They protested that they would for the future, live in Peace with the *Illinois*, and look upon them as Brethren, since they were children of the Governour of *Canada*, which they did not know before.

The consideration of the danger I had escaped, Cured me almost of my Wound, and gave me sufficient strength to return to our Camp. I met about half the Way, Father *Gabriel de la Rivière*, and Father *Zenobe Membré*, who almost dispaired of seeing me any more, and therefore could hardly express the joy they had for my happy return. We went together to the *Illinois*, to whom I deliver'd the Message of the *Iroquois*, but advis'd them withal not to trust too much to their Words and Presents; for I could not perswade my self, that so Cruel and Ambitious a Nation would return Home without any other Advantage, but that of having made Peace with the *Illinois*, whom they pretended to subdue; which was rather a dishonour, and therefore I lookt

upon all their Proteftations as an Artifice to furprize their Enemies.

*The Refolu-
tion of the
Illinois,
upon my
return,
and their
Desertion.*

The *Illinois* were fully perfwaded with what I told them, of the Infidelity of the *Iroquois*; and yet they resolv'd to return the Present by an Embassie. They called, in the mean time, a Council, to take the necessary measures for their Defence; but their young Warriors being satisfy'd with the Glory they had gained in the first Attack, wherein they repulsed their Enemies, would not venture a second Fight, and most of them left their Camp. The others being thus weakened by their Desertion, ran away upon the approach of the *Iroquois*, who plundered their Camp.

Being thus forsaken by our new Confederates, we retir'd into our Fort, but the *Illinois* being re-inforced by fresh Men, appeared again two days after, upon a rising ground in good Order, and resolv'd to fight; whereupon the *Iroquois* thinking they were more numerous than at first, and having tryed their Valour in the former Attack, desir'd me to interpose my mediation for a Peace, which I accepted; and they gave me one of their Chiefs as an Hostage.

age. I went to the *Illinois* with Father
 enoble, and told them the Proposals of ^{Both Parties accept}
 the *Iroquois*; and that I had brought one ^{my mediation.}
 of their Chiefs for Hostage. The *Illinois* were very well pleased with my
 message, and assured me that they were
 sincerely disposed to make Peace with
 the *Iroquois*; then they gave me a full
 power to make it upon what Terms I
 should please, and promis'd to send
 immediately an Hostage for confirming
 what I should say. Both Parties being
 so well disposed, I took some refresh-
 ment, and returned to the *Iroquois*,
 whom I told that I was empowered to
 treat with them, and desir'd that we
 might immediately enter upon the
 Treaty.

They were pleased with it, and the ^{Imprudence}
 Hostage of the *Illinois* being arrived at ^{of an Illi-}
 the same time, confirm'd every thing ^{nois.}
 that I had said, so that the Treaty
 would have been concluded in few
 hours, had not the Imprudence of this
Illinois broken all my measures. This
 inconsiderate Fellow began to praise the
 Valour of his own Nation, and their
 Generals; but owned, that being
 hardly 400 Men, they lookt upon their
 Proposals of Peace as a favour, which
 they

they would acknowledge by some Presents of Beavers and Slaves. This foolish Confession undeceived the *Iroquois* who having believed what I had told them of the number of the *Illinois*, were glad to make Peace, and in some fear of their Enemies. They began then to speak very big, and complained in very hard words, I had deluded them, and done them a great injury, saying that they would have got a considerable Booty, if they had not believed me.

I must confess I was put to a plunge, but having recovered my self, I answer'd, That what I had said before, and what the *Illinois* said then was true, for the *Illinois* were above 600 Men upon their Arrival, and at the first fight, but that a great number having deserted since that time, it may be that their Number was reduced to 400. That I had no other intention but to bring both Parties to a right understanding: That they were Masters of the Camp of their Enemies, and might impose upon them what Conditions they pleased, since they offer'd themselves to buye the Peace. They approved, or at least seemed to approve my Reasons, and
sent

ent back the *Illinois*, to acquaint the Chiefs of his Nation ; that they desir'd see them the next day in their Camp, conclude the Treaty.

They came accordingly the next morning, with a great quantity of Beavers Skins, and several Slaves, which they presented to the *Iroquois*, who receiv'd them very kindly, and promis'd to restore them their Camp and Habitations, which they confirmed by some presents of three Collars of Porcelain and Furrs. The first Collar signifying that they begged Pardon of the Governour of *Canada*, for having attacked a Nation who was under his Protection ; the second signifying the same civility to M. La Salle ; and by the Third, the *Iroquois* swore an eternal Alliance with the *Illinois*. These Presents being mutually exchanged, both Parties retired.

Whilst these two Nations were giving each other mutual Marks of a sincere reconciliation, I discover'd that the *Iroquois* were secretly making Canoos, to follow the *Illinois* along the River, and exterminate them ; and being asked by one of the Chiefs of the *Illinois*, what I thought of their Reconciliation ? I told him very frankly, that the Promises

*The interest
between
the Iro-
quois.
and the Il-
linois.*

*The Treachery of the
Iroquois.*

mises and words of that treacherous Nation were not to be relyed upon; that I did not doubt but that the Canoos which they were getting ready with so much secrecy, were designed against them; that therefore I advis'd them to retire into another Country with their Families, and fortifie themselves in some advantageous Post, 'till the *Iroquois* were gone away. The *Illinois* approved of my Advice, and went back to his Nation, and I retired into our Fort.

*The Iro-
quois make
Presents to
the French.*

The *Iroquois* having consider'd how they had used me, thought fit to give us some satisfaction, and therefore on the 10th of *September*, eight days after their arrival, they desir'd me and Father *Zenoble* to come to their Council, where being sat, they brought six Packs of Bever-skins, and told me, that their Nation offer'd us those Presents, and desir'd us to give the two first Packs, in their Name to Count *Frontenac* their Father, and assure him that they would trouble no more the *Illinois*, knowing they were his Children; that they gave me the third to serve me as a Plaister for my Wound; that the fourth was Oil to rub our Legs during our Voyage: By the fifth, they exhorted us to

Worship

Worship the Sun ; and by the last, they required us to march away the next day, and retire to our *French* Habitations.

I returned them our thanks, in the *Their Answer.* Name of our Nation, for the respects they had expressed for the Count de Frontenac, and Mr. la Salle, and for their good Entertainment, and likewise for their Oil and Plaister, but I thought fit to ask them when they themselves designed to march away, and when they would restore that Camp to the *Illinois*, according to their Promise. This Question did not please them, and after a general grumbling, they told me, that since I was so curious, they would satisfy me, and that they would depart, after having devour'd some of our Brethren, or else some of the *Illinois*. As soon as I understood this Answer, I thrust back their Present with my Foot, and told them, that seeing they had such a Design, I would accept none, adding withal, that I would march away without their Order or Leave, when I should think fit. The Chiefs of the *Iroquois* having heard my reply, stood up, and told us that we might retire. There was

was amongst them one *Abenaguis*, with whom I had been acquainted, who told me, that they were very much angry with me, and advis'd us to retire with all the haste we could to our Fort; which we did accordingly, and stood all the Night long upon our Guard, being resolved to defend our selves to the utmost extremity.

When we saw our selves safe, Father *Zenoble* and I made several Reflections, on the Dissimulation and Infidelity of that Nation, and likewise on the dangers we had been exposed to in their Council; and I remember that that good Father blam'd my proceedings; and said, That in those nice occasions, we ought to be more pliant, in hopes to find a more favourable opportunity. I agreed with him in general, but insisted, that this Principle admitted of some exceptions, and that assuredness and vigour were more prevailing upon barbarous men, than a more prudent way. In the mean time we advis'd what was fit to be done in this juncture; and being unable to defend us against so many Enemies, we resolved to quit the Fort the next day. I Embarked the next Morning with two *Recollects* and five

The French
quit the
Fort.

French

French men ; the others who were in the Fort, having chosen to go and live among the *Illinois* rather than to return home.

Having equally divided our Arms, Ammunition, and Goods, we Embarked the Eleventh of *September*, 1687, very early, and about Five Leagues from the Fort, we went ashore to repair our Canoo, and dry some Furs, which the Water would have spoiled.

As we were busie about it, Father *Gabriel* told me that he would take a walk along the Shore; and I advised him to keep in our sight, because we were surrounded with Enemies; but the charming Prospect of that Country engaged him a little too far, so that seeing he did not return, we began to mistrust that he was fallen into the Hands of the Savages. Father *Zenoble* and I advanced into the Woods to look for him, but could not discover what was become of him, notwithstanding we fir'd our Arms, and made all the Night long a great Fire to give him notice of the place where we expected him. We understood hence, that he was met by a Band of Savages called *Quicapous*, who murdered

Father Gabriel murdered by the Savages.

ed him, and fold, some time after, his Breviary to a Jesuit, from whom we learned these particulars. Thus dyed this Holy Man, in the seventieth Year of his Age, by the Hands of those very Men for the sake of whom he had left his Native Country, and suffer'd many Fatigues.

We waited for him 'till the next day about Noon, but having no hope of his Return, we Embarked again, and after one Months Navigation, landed within two days Journey of the Lake of the *Illinois*, into which we carried over Land our Equipage. We embarked again on the 20th of *October*, and ten days after, were forced to land, by contrary Winds, within 20 Leagues of a great Village, called *Potavalam*, where we found no other Provision but Acorns.

I was sick of an Ague, and my legs were so swoln, that we could not reach the Village I have spoken of 'till the 10th of *November*. We found no boat in it, nor any Provisions, but having, by good chance, advanced into the Country, we met with a good quantity of *Indian Corn*, which enabled us to embark again. The Winds were so cro-

that we were oblig'd to come a Shore
few days after, where having found
some fresh foot-steps, we followed the
Track, and came to another Village of
the *Pontoualamis*, which was likewise
abandoned, but however afforded us
some Provisions, which were sufficient
to maintain us 'till our arrival at the
Bay of *Puans*, which was towards the
latter end of *November*.

Having already described this Bay,
need not repeat it now, but I must
add, that there is a Creek in it called
the Creek of the Sturgeons, because of
the prodigious quantity of that sort of
fish that is catch'd in it. We refresh'd
our selves in that place for several
days with the *Pontoualamis*, who en-
tertained us with scorched Beef and
tagg. We diverted also our selves in
Hunting of Beavers, which afforded
us a great satisfaction.

The Country about the Bay, being
watered by an infinite number of Ri-
vulets, lined with great Trees, and the
Woods being full of Aspen-trees,
the Branches and Leaves whereof are
the dainty food of Beavers. Those
Creatures are very numerous in those
parts.

F

The

*An Ac-
count of
Beavers.*

The Beavers are, as every body knows, Amphibious Creatures, who cannot live without Air, Water, and Land. They are near as big as Sheep but not so tall, their legs being very short, but so nimble, that they come nothing short of Apes for dexterity. They have a Muzzle or Nose, and strong Teeth; their Body is covered with thick Hair, and pretty fine, but their Tail is made up of a kind of twisted Hair, which forms a figure like that of a Triangle, and serves them as a Trowel to beat the soft Earth they make use of to build their Habitations.

The Instinct or Industry of those Creatures is almost incredible, and therefore I am sensible that many will question the Truth of what I have to say about it, however, I may assure the Reader that I do not Romance in the least. When they have a mind to make a new Settlement or Habitation, and have found a proper place for it, which is commonly in the Channel of a River, provided it be not too deep, or too broad, they look for a Tree on the Bank of the said River, leaning a little towards the Water. They

meet

together in a Circle, and because
the number is always odd, it seems
they hold a Council, to know
what is fit to be done. The first thing
to be done, is to cut down the Tree
they have pitched upon, but not hori-
zontally, but in such a manner that it
shall fall into the very place they have a
mind to, that is cross the River, to
stop or at least to abate the Rapidity
of the stream. If the Branches hinder the
fall of the Tree to lye in the Water,
cut them likewise, and then make
a perfect Dike or Bank with Mud and
bind them together, leaving now and then
places open for the Water, lest
the River should overflow their Bank.
If the Tree cannot reach the other
side, they fell another Tree over a-
gain to join that, and make a per-
fect Causeway or Bridge. This Work
being compleated, they build their Ha-
bitations or Caves near that place, and
employ nothing but mud in the fol-
lowing manner; they lay a Layer of it,
and beat it very hard with their Tails,
then another, and so on successive-
ly till it is about three Foot high; they
smooth it and Polish it very handsomely,
and divide it into three several Apart-
ments,

ments, which have communication with the other ; one of them is to lie the second for their Provisions, and third serves them for a necessary House. They make a Canal or subterranean Aqueduct from the River to one of their Apartments, in which they have a kind of Pond, wherein they hang their Tail, for otherwise they could not live. This Canal serves also for another use, for when they hear noise, they make their escape through that place into the River. Every one is obliged to work, but if any one has his Tail excoriated or otherwise hurt, he lays it flat upon his back, to signify that he is unable to work.

*How they
Hunt Beavers.*

When the Savages go a Hunting they follow the Rivers, and as far as they discover any Causey, Bridge or Bank, they may be sure that Beavers are not far off. They come as near as they can, but as soon as Beavers see or hear them, they escape through their Canal into the River, but as they must breathe from time to time, the Savages soon shoot them, it be in Summer time ; for in Winter they use another Art to catch them. They make holes in the Ice, and

g beat out the Beavers from their
bitations into the River, they must
ne to breath through those Holes,
l then the Savages catch them a-
e by the Tail.

Having refreshed our selves above
n Days in this place, and taken in
visions, we Embarked again on the
enteenth of *December* for *Missilima-*
ac, but eight days after were forc-
back by a contrary Wind. The
ages were gone away, but had left
ne Provisions, which we wanted ve-
much; for the Ice and the malady
our Men obliged us to continue in
t place, where we suffer'd very
ch. Finding our selves in that ex-
nity, I advanced into the Woods
endeavour to find some relief, and
pleased God that I met with two
ages, of the Nation of the *Outno-*
who conducted me to a Village
onging to the *Pontoualamis*, where
met several *French*-men settled in
t place, by whom we were kindly
eiv'd, as also by the Savages. Father
oble understanding that the Jesuits
a Settlement in the bottom of the
y, thought it was more becoming
Character, to pass the Winter a-
F 3 mongst

mongst them, than in company of Savages, and went thither two days after our arrival; but we continued 'till the next Spring in that place, and liv'd very comfortably.

We diverted our selves at Hunting with Bulls in the beginning of *March*, the Grass being already grown. The Bulls are near twice as big as our Oxen, the Hair looks like a fine Fleece, and is very long; their Horns are bent backwards, and extraordinary long; their Eyes are likewise larger and bigger than those of our *European* Bulls, which make them look terrible. They go always by Drovers of three or five Hundred in each. When the Savages go a Hunting, they encompass a Drove of these Bulls, and one of them comes creeping as near as he can, and then stands up, making an Out-cry, which frightens away the whole Drove; the Savages being in a Circle, they cannot escape without being shot; but as they become very fierce and dangerous when they are wounded, the Savages shoot them in the Thigh or the Shoulder, to prevent their coming upon them, and when they are down, they break their Heads with Clubs. As they are

cell

*How they
Hunt Bulls.*

cellent Marksmen, they never miss, and twenty Men will sometimes kill Forty and Fifty Bulls.

That which is wonderful in this, is the havock, which the Shot sent by the Savages makes; for besides the exactness and swiftness of the Stroke, the force of it is very surprizing, and so much the rather, because it is nothing else but a Stone, or a Bone, or sometimes a piece of very hard Wood, pointed and fastned to the end of an Arrow with some Fishes-glue, that causes this terrible effect. When the Savages go to War, they poison the point, or extremity of their Dart, so that if that remains in the Body, Death follows of necessity; the only Remedy in this case, is to draw out the Arrow through the other side of the Wound; if it goes quite thorough, or if not, to make an aperture on the other side, and so to draw it through; after which they know by instinct, certain Herbs, the application of which both draws out the Venom, and Cures it.

I stayed all the Month of *March* in this place: Father *Zenoble* came back to me at Spring, and we re-embark-

The Fort of
Creve-
cœur.

ing at the Creek we had left, came to Land at *Missilimachinac* in the begining of *April*, with a design to stay there for M. de la Salle. From the 11th of *September*, 1681, when we took our leaves of the *Illinois*, to the 1st of *April*, Seven Months were slipt away; during which time, M. de la Salle, upon the Advice that I had given him by my Letter, was come down to the *Illinois* with a good Recruit, with intention to help us. The *Iroquois* having Advice of his Descent, and being afraid of being hemm'd in between two Armies, were retired, and the *Illinois* were again entred into their Possessions. However M. de la Salle found but some few, the rest being gone to winter in the Woods; he exhorted those that remained, to call their Country-men, assuring them he would build a Fort that should shelter them from the Invasion of their Enemies; he visited the Fort of *Crevecoeur*, which was still in the same condition, and placed therein a small Garrison of Fifteen or Sixteen *French*, and a Commander, with Ammunition and Arms. After this, he went again up the River to the great Vil-

lage,

ge, whither many Families of the Illinois were returned; he laboured hard upon the inclosure of his New Port, and having understood by some scouts, that I had taken my way towards *Missilimachinac*, he set forward again to join me, having left some soldiers and Pioneers at the intended Port, to continue his Work and defend that Post.

He came not to *Missilimachinac* 'till about the Fifteenth of *August*, in the Year 1682. There we took new measures to perfect the Discovery we had begun. We must needs think forthwith of making some new Provision for so long a Voyage. It was with this Design, that after Six Days rest, M. de La Salle set out in a Canoo for *Frontenac*, Father *Zenoble* and I going along with him; having sailed happily the first day, we landed at a Village called *Trejagon*, belonging to the *Iroquois*. M. de la Salle Trafficked there with some Skins, and having ordered me to stay for him there, with Father *Zenoble*, he went on board the Canoo for *Frontenac*. There he found his Bark ready, and stored her with abundance of Ammunition and Provisions;

ons; he lifted there some new Souldiers, and eight days after, sent me his Bark laden with fresh Men, good Merchandise, and such things as were most necessary. The Father and I went on board, and landed the first Day at *Niagara*, below the Fall of the River: There we were forced to put our Baggage and Merchandise upon Sledges, and so conduct them to the Lake *Herié*, where we re-embark'd in a Canoo to the number of Twenty Persons, as well Souldiers as Mariners, together with our best Merchandise. After Three days Sail, we landed at the side of the River of the *Miamis*, where having lodg'd our selves in Huts, I had time to reassemble there some *French* and some *Savages*, *Abenaguis*, *Loups*, *Quicapous*, and others. There I augmented our Provisions by Hunting, and I barter'd some of our Commodities for *Indian* Corn.

There it was that M. de la Salle came to rejoin us towards the end of *November*; the day of his Arrival we fell down the River of the *Miamis* in a Canoo, to the Mouth of another River named *Chicacou*; and we went
up

up it again to a small Harbour, which is but a League from the great River of the *Illinois*. Having put on Shore in this place, we passed the Night with a very great Fire; for the Cold was so sharp, that the next day the Rivers were froze and un-navigable. We were obliged then to have recourse to the Sledge, to carry our Baggage to the Village of the *Illinois*, where we found things in the same state that M. de la Salle had left them; only the Village was better Peopled; which gave us opportunity to defer our Intrigues a little, and to renew our Provisions.

The Rivers being still block'd up with Ice, we found our selves oblig'd to begin again our Journey by Land; the Third day of *January*, 1683. we had pusht on our way to Thirty Leagues below. There the Weather grew mild, and the Ice melted, so that Navigation appearing commodious, we went on Board a Canoo, the Twenty Fourth of *January*, and fell down the River of the *Illinois*, to the River *Mississipi*, where we arrived the second of *February*.

The

The River
of the Illi-
nois.

The River of the *Illinois*, reckoning from its first Carriage to its disemboguing into the River, is at least 160 Leagues Navigable. The adjacent parts are as pleasant as fruitful; one sees there Animals of all sorts, Stags, Hinds, Linces, Wild Bulls, Goats, Sheep, Hares, and infinite more, but few Beavers. As to the Trees, they are nothing but Forests of High Trees, with great Walks, which seem drawn by a Line; besides Elms, Beech, Planetrees, Cedars, Walnut and Chesnut-trees; one sees there whole Plains cover'd over with Pomgranate-trees, Orange-trees, and Lemmon-trees; and in one word, with all kind of Fruit-trees.

In many places there are to be seen large Vines, whose tendrels being twist'd about the Branches of huge Trees, bear Bunches of Grapes of an extraordinary bigness.

Being Embarked upon the *Mississipi*, we followed the Course of this great River; six Leagues from the Mouth of the River *Illinois*, we met with that of the *Ozages*, the Banks of which, and places thereabouts, are no less agreeable and Fertile; 'tis true, its
Water

of the Oza-
ges.

Water carries so great a quantity of Mud along with it, as to change that of *Mississipi*, and make it all Muddy for more than Twenty Leagues. Its Brinks are bordered with great Walnut-trees; one sees there an infinite number of Foot-steps made by the Beavers; and the Hunting for them there is very great and common. Going up towards its Source, its Banks are inhabited by Savages, who trade much in Skins; we passed one Night at the Mouth of this River.

The next day, after we had sailed Ten Leagues, we came to the Village of the *Tamaons*, where we met with no body at all, the Savages being retired into the Woods to Winter; we made there however some Marks to let 'em know that we had pass'd by. After that, continuing our Voyage, we arrived, after a Course of 3 Days, at the Mouth of the River of the *Ouabachi*, that comes from the *East*, and throws it self into the *Mississipi*, Eighty Leagues from that of the *Illinois*: It is by this River that the *Iroquois* come to make War upon the Nations of the *South*. In this place we lay in Huts one Night, and after a Course

*The River
of the Ouabachi.*

Course of Sixty Leagues, following still our great River, we came to land at a Bank Inhabited by Savages, who are called *Chicacha*. Here it was that we lost a *French*-man of our Company, named *Preudhomme*. The search we made for him during Nine days, gave us an opportunity of discovering several Nations, and of Building a Fort in this place, to serve as a Rest and Habitation for the *French* in that fine Country.

Hunters
well re-
ceived of
the Sava-
ges in Chi-
cacha.

During this Interval, Two of our Hunters met with two of the Savages *Chicacha*, who offer'd to conduct 'em into their Village. Our Men, led by a Spirit of Curiosity, follow'd them; they were very well received, and after laden with Presents, and were intreated by the Principal among them, to procure that our Commander will honour them with a Visit. Our People being very well satisfied with their reception, made their report of it to M. de la Salle, who the next day went himself with Ten of his Company; he received there all the good treatment that could be expected from People the most civiliz'd; and had no trouble to inspire 'em with Sentiments

ents of submission and Obedience to the King. These Savages also consented easily to the finishing of our Fort.

This Nation is very numerous, and able to furnish out Two Thousand The Nation of the Chichacha.

men; they have all Faces flat like plates, which is reckoned among them a stroke of Beauty; it is for this reason they take care to make the visage of their Children flat with tablets of Wood, which they apply to their Foreheads, and gird very hard with Bands: All these Nations to the South give themselves this Figure. Every thing is very plentiful with them; Corn, Fruits, Grapes, Olives, geese, Hens, *Indian Hens*, Bustards, &c. M. de la Salle having received such good Refreshment there, and having made 'em, by way of acknowledgment, a Present of some Knives and hatchets, he returned to his own people. At last, after Nine days expectation, *Preudhomme*, who had lost himself in the Woods, where he had lived upon nothing but Wild Fowl, found us again; M. de la Salle entrusted him with the care of finishing the Fort, which he called after his Name, and gave him the Command of it; after

Preudhomme lost in the Woods, rejoined the French.

after which he took his Course upon the same River towards the end of the Month of February.

An Alarm caused by a Drum. We were three Days without disembarking: The fourth after having made Fifty Leagues, we came to the Village of the Cappa: We had scarce set foot on Land, but we heard a Drum beat; forthwith fancying we saw the Enemy at our Heels, we threw ourselves into our Canoes, and went over to the other side; and so we immediately made a Redoubt to secure our selves from any surprize.

The good treatment which the Savages Cappa gave the French. The Savages came to view us in a Canoo; we sent some of our Men to 'em, to present them with the Calumet; they accepted it freely, and at the same time offered themselves to conduct us to their Habitations, and promised us all manner of assistance. M. de la Salle was very ready to go thither; in the mean time one of the two Savages went before, to give notice of our arrival to those of his own Nation. Their Prince, accompanied with some of the chief of 'em, came forward to receive us. As soon as he saw M. de la Salle, he saluted him in a very grave and respectful manner.

offer

fer'd him any thing that depended upon him or his Nation, and taking him by the Hand, led him towards his Cottage. M. de La Salle walking along with him, testified to him how sensible he was of his Civilities, and let him understand his Design and Intentions, which tended to nothing else but the glory of the true God, and to make known to him the Power of the French King. Being arrived at the Village, we saw a very great multitude of People, in the midst of whom were some Archers drawn up in a line. The Prince making a little halt, declared to all the Assembly, that we were sent by the King of France, to discover North America, and to receive its People under his Protection. Then there follow'd a general Acclamation, by which the People seem'd to testify their Joy: As soon as the Prince had assur'd M. de La Salle, of the perfect submission of all his People to the Orders of the King, he conducted him into his Cottage, and gave him, and those of his Company, all the good treatment possible. Besides this, he made him very considerable presents, namely, abundance of Indian
G Corn,

Corn, and other necessary Provision with which M. de la Salle was very well satisfied, as well as with all the other Civilities. This Nation was scarce any thing of Savage; they give Judgment according to their Laws and Customs; every one there enjoys his own Goods in particular.

The Manners and Customs of the Cappa.

The Nation of the Akancéas.

Eight Leagues from hence are the Akancéas, whose Land is above six Leagues over: They are divided into several Villages, almost at equal distances. The Cappa gave us two Guides to carry us to the First, which they call *Togengan*; it stands upon the Bank of a River, and there we were very well received. Two Leagues from this Town, we fell down in a Canoo to that of *Torimant*; and five Leagues from this last, to another called *Ozotoni*. We were equally well received in every place; and as our arrival had already made a noise in all the Country, we found a very numerous Assembly of People in this place, which caused M. de la Salle to set up the Arms of the King, with

The Arms of the King set up at the noise of the Artillery.

Shot of our Artillery. The Noise and Fire of our Arms impress'd such a respect upon all the Multitude, and threw

em into such a Consternation, that
 the Prince, on the part of his Nation,
 swore to us an inviolable Alliance. *The Cli-
mate of this*
 This Climate and that of the *Cappa Country.*
 is the same; it is about the 34th
 Degree of Latitude. The Country
 throughout does generally abound in
 Grain, Fruits, and Wild Fowl of all sorts.
 The temperature of the Air is won-
 derful, there is never any Snow to be
 seen, and but very little Ice: Their
 Cottages are built of Cedar, all mat-
 ted within: They have no deter- *The Religi-
on of its*
 min'd Worship; they Adore all sorts *Inhabitants*
 of Animals, or rather they Worship
 but one Divinity, which discovers its
 self in a certain Animal, such as it
 shall please their *Jongleur*, or Priest, to
 pitch upon; so that it will be some-
 times an Ox, sometimes a Dog, or
 some other. When this visible God
 is dead, there is an universal Mourn-
 ing; but which is presently changed
 into a great Joy, by the choice they
 make of a new Mortal Deity, which
 is always taken from amongst the
 Brutes.

About Sixty Leagues below this Na- *Taencas;*
 tion, are the *Taencas*, a People that
 give place to none in *America*, either

*Crocodiles
in great
numbers.*

for Force or Beauty of Climate. The *Akanceas* gave us Guides to conduct us thither, and going on Board a Canoo, we still follow'd the Course of the great River. After our first days Voyage, we began to see some Crocodiles along the brink; They are in a very great number upon these Banks, and of a prodigious bigness, some being Twenty or Thirty Foot long. To see so monstrous an Animal, who would believe that it comes into the World but like a Chicken, being hatched of an Egg! only it is observed, that it grows as long as it lives. We took notice that they fled when we pursu'd 'em, and that when we fled they pursued us; we dispersed them with our Fuses, and killed some of 'em. The day following being arriv'd over against the first Village of the *Taencas*, M. de la Salle sent me to the Prince, to give him notice of his Arrival, and gave me two Guides of the *Akancéas*, and two *Abenaguis* to be my Interpreters.

As this Village stands on the other side of a Lake, which is Eight Leagues in Circumference, and half a League over, we were forced to take a Ca-

noo

noo to cross it, which we perform'd
 in two Hours. As soon as we land-
 ed, I was surpriz'd to see the Gran-
 dure of the Village, and the Order of
 the Cottages; they are plac'd in di-
 vers rows, and in a streight Line,
 round about a large space, being all
 made of Earth, and covered over with
 Mats of Cane: We presently took
 notice of two fairer than the rest, one
 was the Princes Palace, the other
 the Temple; each of them was a-
 bout forty Foot square, the Walls ten
 Foot high, and two Foot thick; the
 Roof, in the form of a Cupilo, was
 cover'd with a Mat of divers Colours:
 Before the Prince's Palace stood a Do-
 zen Men Armed with Half-pikes. As
 soon as we came up, an Old Man ad-
 dressed himself to me, and taking me
 by the Hand, led me into a great
 square Hall, the Floor and sides of
 which were covered with a very fine
 Mat; at the further end of the Hall,
 over against the Entrance, was a very
 handsome Bed, with Curtains of a fine
 Stuff, made and woven of the Bark of
 Mulberry-trees. We saw the Prince
 of this People upon this Bed, as upon
 his Throne, in the middle of four

*The Gran-
 dure and
 Order of the
 fine Village
 of the Sa-
 vages.*

*The Prince
 of the Ta-
 encas.*

handsome Women, and encompassed with above Sixty Old Men, Armed with Bows and Arrows; they were all Cloath'd with very fine White Garments; that of the Prince was adorned with certain Tufts of Wool of different Colours; the rest were all plain.

A Description of the Women of these Savages.

The Prince had upon his Head a Diadem of woven Rushes, very curiously wrought, and enriched with large Pearls, and rais'd with a Plume of various Feathers; all that were about him were bare-headed: The Women were dress'd in Cloaths of the same Stuff; they had upon their Heads little Rush Hats, adorned with several Feathers, and had all Necklaces of Pearl, and fine Ear-Pendants of the same; they had Bracelets of woven Hair, and several other Jewels which set off their Attire: They were not quite Black, but Brown, their Visages something flat, their Eyes Black, sparkling, and pretty large; their Shape fine and free; and they all appear'd to me of a smiling and very pleasant Air.

Being

Being surpriz'd, or rather charm'd,
 with the Beauties of this Savage Court,
 I address'd my Speech to the vene-
 rable Prince, and spoke to him in
 the Name of M. de la Salle. That ^{A Dis-}
 having the Honour to be sent by the ^{course ad-}
 King of *France*, the most potent of all ^{dress'd to}
 the Kings upon Earth, to make a Dis- ^{the Prince}
 covery of all the Nations of *America*, ^{of these Sa-}
 and to invite them to live under the ^{vages.}
 Government of so great a Prince; we
 came to offer them our Friendship
 and Protection; to which the upper
 Countries had all freely submitted:
 That if we did pretend to settle our
 selves in the Country, it was not so
 much to bring them under a rigorous
 Yoke, as to maintain for them, by the
 power of our Arms, what was already
 in their Possession; and to impart
 to them our rarest Arts and our
 Wealth: Not so much to spoil them of
 their Treasures, as to teach them a
 more advantageous way of using them.
 Not to Usurp their Territories, but
 put them in a way to Cultivate and
 improve them, and to instruct them
 in our Commerce. In short, not to
 become their Lords and Masters, but

to Establish a Brotherly Friendship with them.

The Prince all this while hearken'd with great Attention, (and one of our *Abenaguis* having given him to understand what I said) embraced me, and with a smiling Countenance, told me, That after the Account I had given him of our great Monarch, he could not but conceive the greatest Respect and Veneration for him; that he should the next day see M. de la Salle, and that he would give him more particular assurances of it. Whereupon I presented him in M. de la Salle's Name, with a Sword inlaid with Gold and Silver, some Cases of Razors, Cizars, and Knives, and some Bottles of *Aqua vite*. I cannot express the Joy and satisfaction he receiv'd these small Presents with. But I took notice at the same time, that one of his Wives, who had a pair of the Cizars in her Hand, admir'd very much the neatness of the Work, and would now and then give me a Smile, which I fancied might be a modest way of asking me for a pair too. I took an opportunity to draw near to her, and pulling out of my Pocket a small steel

Case

Case of Filligreen-work, wherein was
a pair of Cizars, and a little Tor-
se-shell Knife, and pretending to ad-
mire the whiteness and fineness of
her Garment, I slipped the Case into
her Hand, and she received it, squeez-
ing my Hand pretty hard. Which gave
me reason to think, that these Women
were not Hearts altogether so Savage,
but that they might easily be tamed
for us, and taught the Politer Arts of
Conversation. Another of the Com-
pany, who was not less pretty, and
exactly accoutred, drawing nearer to
me, gave me to understand by the
horns she shewed me, which she
made use of to fasten her Train, that
these Pins would be very acceptable
to her. I gave her a paper of 'em,
together with a Case of Needles and
Silver Thimble. These little Trin-
kets she received with a wonderful
joy; and then I gave as much to the
two others. She who was the finest
and the most agreeable of 'em, hav-
ing taken notice that I admir'd a
collar of large Pearl that she had a-
bout her Neck, took it off, and made
an Offer of it to me, with abundance
of civility. I refus'd it a good while,
but

but reflecting upon the plenty of Pearls that is among them, and that their fishing for 'em was in the Seas thereabouts, I made no further difficulty, and after a few more offers, I accepted of it. But, in return, I gave him ten Yards of Blew Ribbon, which I valued, at least, at as high a rate.

The Night now drawing on, I was going to take my leave of the Prince, but he very earnestly desired me to stay 'till the next day, and gave the charge of me to an Officer, to let me want for nothing. I did not want much Courtship, and the desire I had to see a little of their Manners and Behaviour, made me readily enough accept of the kind offer. I was conducted into an Apartment furnished much after the rate of that the Prince was in. There they brought me a Collation of Wild-fowl, and Fruit, and some Liquors, of which I tasted. And that while there was an Old Gentleman with me, who was very good Company, and especially because he resolved me all the Questions I put to him. As for what concerns their Politicks, he inform'd me, that they were in-
tirely

rely govern'd by their Prince's Absolute Will. That they obey'd him their Sovereign; that they own'd Children his lawful Successors; that when he died, they sacrificed his eldest or Chief Wife, the first Steward and twenty Men of his Nation, to be his Retinue and wait upon him in the other World. That during his life, no Man drunk in his Cup, nor eat out of his Dish, or walk'd as he was passing by; that care was always taken, not only to clean the way for him, but also to strew it with sweet Herbs and Flowers. I serv'd in that little time I was in his Presence, that when he spoke to any body, they made a loud kind of humming before they answer'd him; that I begg'd this Old Gentleman to tell me the Reason of it: He told me that this was lookt upon as a token of admiration and respect. As for their Religion, he told me that they Worship the Sun; that they had their Temples, their Altars, and their Festivals. That in that Temple, there was a Fire which burnt perpetually, the proper Emblem of the Sun.

That

That at the Decrease of the Moon they carried a great Dish of the greatest Dainties to the Door of the Temple, as an Oblatory Sacrifice which the Priests offer'd to their God and then they carried it home, and feasted themselves with it.

As to their Customs, every Spring they go in a Body to some retired place, and there turn up a large space of Land, which they do with the Drums beating all the while. After this, they take care to call it the *Désart*, or the *Field of the Spirit*. And thither they go in good earnest, where they are in their Enthusiastick Frenzy and there wait for Inspiration from their pretended Deity. In the meanwhile, as they do this every Year it proves of no small advantage to them, for by this means they turn up all their Land insensibly, and it becomes abundantly more fruitful. In Autumn they gather their *Indian Corn* and they keep it in great Baskets 'till the New Moon in the next Month of *June*: Then the Families get together, and every one invites his Friends

Neighbours, to come and eat
Meat they get like-
; and thus they spend the Day
Feasting.

This is all I could learn that Day
their Religion, their Government
Customs. The next Day I had
Curiosity of seeing their Temple,
the Old Gentleman had me thi-
r. The Structure of it was exact-
the same with that of the Prince's
use. As to the out-side, it is en-
compassed with a great high Wall,
space betwixt that and the Tem-
forming a kind of Court, where
ple may walk. On the top of the
all are several Pikes to be seen, up-
which are stuck the Heads of their
most notorious Criminals, or of
r Enemies. On the top of the
entispiece, there is a great Knob rais-
all covered round with Hair, and
ve that, an heap of Scalps in form
a Trophy.

The inside of the Temple is only a
ve, painted on all sides, at top with all
s of Figures; in the midst of it is an
arth instead of an Altar, upon
which

which there is continually three great Billets burning, standing up on end and two Priests drest in White Vestments, are ever looking after it, make up the Fire and supply It is round this that all the People come to say their Prayers, with strange kind of Hummings. The Prayers are three times a Day; at Sun rise, Noon, and at Sun set. They made me take notice of a sort of Cloister cut out of the Wall, the inside of which was very fine: I could see only the Roof of it, on the top of which there hung a couple of spread Eagles, which look'd towards the Sun. I wanted to go into it; but they told me that it was the Tabernacle of their God, and that it was permitted to none but their High Priest to go into it. And I was told that this was the Repository of the Wealth and Treasures; as Pearls, Gold and Silver, precious Stones, and some Goods that came out of *Europe* which they had from their Neighbours.

After I had seen all these Curiosities, I took my leave of all the

that were with me, and went back
with my two Interpreters, to *M. de*
Salle; to whom I gave a faithful
account of the good Entertainment I
had received from the Prince of the
Guiccas; of his Magnificence; and es-
pecially of his good Inclinations to
acknowledge the King's Authority.
Some time after we saw him coming
towards us, in a very magnificent
Barge, with Drums beating, and the
Women that attended him playing
several Instruments: Some of
them were in his own Barge, some in
others that went along by the side
of it. *M. de la Salle* received him in
a respectful manner, and yet with
that gravity as best became him, con-
sidering the Character he bore. He
thanked him for the honour he did
him, and told him he did not receive
but in the Name of the Prince
his Master; and that as he did not
doubt but he was willing to acknow-
ledge his Power, so he might safely
assure him of his Royal Friendship
and Protection. The Prince of the
Guiccas's made Answer, That what
he had heard of the Grandure of the
French

King, and of the Valour of his Subjects, would not permit him to hesitate, in paying him in Person the Hommage which he was perswaded was due to him whom he represented; and that tho' he was a Sovereign he chearfully submitted to our great King's Power; and that he should be glad to merit our Alliance and Protection by his Services. After these mutual Protestations of Friendship they made each other their Presents. M. de la Salle presented him with two pieces of Ribbon, and some Trinkets for his Wives. The Prince gave him six of his richest Robes, a Collar of Pearl, a *Piroque* or Barge filled with Ammunition and Provision; after which there was brought a Dozen of Bottles of *Aqua vita*, prepar'd with Sugar and Almonds, and Apricock Kernels. Then the King's Health was drunk, with discharge of all our Guns, after that the Prince of the *Tacuca's* in like manner; after which he went again to his *Piroque*, and went away very well satisfied.

We continued all that Day on the
Shore

more, where we took the Altitude, and found our selves at the 25th degree of Latitude, the next day being the 22d of *March* 1693, we went and lay ten Leagues off.

M. de la Salle perceiving a *Pique*, that made up towards us, to see what we were, gave me orders to chase it ; which I did ; but I was just going to lay hold of her, above a Hundred Men straight appeared on the Shore, with their Bows ready to shoot us. M. de la Salle, with loud calling after me, made me stop ; and being come back to his Company again, we went all and stood over against them with our Muskets ready presented. This posture of ours frightened them, and made them lay down their Arms ; and I was immediately ordered to go and carry them the *Calumet*. Being come up to them, I offer'd them the Collar of Peace ; they accepted very civilly ; they embraced me, and gave me to understand, that they would be Friends with us. M. de la Salle seeing in what an obliging

liging manner they had received me, came to join us on the same Shore; and as soon as those Savages perceived him to be our Chief, they paid him all kind of Honours and Respect. He told them that he did not require any thing from them, but a chearful Acknowledgment and Submission to our great King's Orders; to which he added, for their encouragement, the Example of the other greater Nations, and made use of the Arguments he before used on like occasions. They answer'd him, that they had their Prince, and that they could determine nothing without his Orders, and offer'd either to bring him to us, or to conduct us to his Dwelling. *M. de la Salle* who was always glad of an Opportunity of seeing the Situation, Manners, and Faculty of those Nations, chose the latter. Their Village was four great Leagues off from the Shore. We were no sooner come into it, but the Prince came to receive us; he had us into his Cottage, where he treated us very

hanc

ndfomly, it was the Prince of
e Nation of the *Naches*. This
ople is divided into two Provin-
; this was the least of the two.
eir Territories are seldom above
venty Leagues compass, and their
eatest Revenues is the Pearl Fi-
ry which they have in the Sea
out them.

There is a great many Divers
that Nation, who dive to the
tom of the Water, and fetch up
se precious Shells from the lower-
st part of the Rocks. On a fair day
a may see the Shells on the Rocks
n themselves to receive the Dew
Heaven. Which Dew breeds
first Seeds of the Pearl within
Shells, which appear like little
ite Grain that sticks fast to the
ell. These small soft Grains do
time become hard and white,
we see they are. It is observed
t the Pearls which are fetch'd
n the bottom of the Sea, are
er than those which are found
the Rocks, because the Sun

tarnishes these, and the Thunder is destructive to their Seeds.

This little Prince presented *de la Salle* with some Dozens of them, of a considerable bigness; and in return, we gave him a Hatchet, a Kettle, and some Knives. They gave us besides these, some Provisions; and having staid there the whole Day, we went away the next very well satisfied with each other. They gave us a couple of Guides, to shew us the way to the other Nation of the same Name, which is Ten Leagues farther in the Country. In the mean time *M. de la Salle* sent two of our Men to carry some fresh Provisions to those that waited for us by the Water side, together with Orders to fall Ten Leagues lower down the River, and to stay for him there.

Thus we went under the Conduct of our Guides, and came the Night to the great Village of *Niches*. This Nation is able to

Three Thousand Men in any
ne of War. Their Land is very
ell Cultivated, and bears *Indian*
orn, all sorts of Fruit-Trees, O-
e-trees, and Vines. There are
st Meadows to be seen there;
st Forests and all sorts of Cattle;
hing and Hunting being all their
mployment and their Wealth.

The Prince received us with a
eat deal of Joy; made us a great
ny Presents both of Pearl and
ovisions, and treated us very ge-
roushly. The next day we plant-
there the King's Arms, giving
Volley of Shot; after which we
ok our leaves of the Prince, who
ured us of his intire Submission;
d we went to meet our Men
th new Provisions.

Being got aboard our Canoes,
e went forward, and about Eight
agues off, we came to the Village
roas, where the Prince receiv'd
as the rest had done, and paid
omage.

The next day being the 27th of March, 1683. we planted our Hut at the Mouth of a great River which comes from the *West*, and is called *La Sablonniere*; Ten League from hence, as we continued our Course, we found the River divide it self into three Channels; I took the Right-hand-stream, M. de la Forest took the left, and M. de la Salle the middle way; we followed each our Course for about Ten Leagues, and in a little time after, we found our selves re-join'd by the uniting of the Three Streams again into one. We were hardly got together again, and gone forward Five or Six Leagues, but we espied some Fisher-men by the Water-side, who were *Quinipissa's*. As soon as they saw us come near they allarmed all the rest of their Men, and straight the Drum fell a beating, and the Shore was in an instant lined with Savages, all armed with Bows and Arrows; we were willing to send Four *French* Men to treat with 'em, but they were

were severely sent back by a shoal of Arows; after which, four of our savages offer'd to go to see what they could do, but they were used in like manner; in so much that M. de la Salle, not willing to run any further risque here, he bid us leave them in quiet, and trouble our selves no further with them.

Twelve Leagues from the *Qui-
pipissa's*, we fell to the Right, on the Village call'd *Tangibao*; we found it pillag'd, sack'd, and a great Heap of dead Bodies one upon another. This sight struck a mighty horror in us, and concluding that it was not good staying here, we went on; and about Ten Leagues further, we begun to find the Water brackish; the Shore seemed somewhat more extended, and all strewed with Shells of different shape and figure, some like drinking Cups, some like Snails ending in a spiral point, and all of a most agreeable variety of Colours. We kept on still, and after an Hours sailing, we put

our selves into a Canoo, and kept along the Coast, the better to take our Observation of the Shore, and so came back to land at the River Mouth.

This was on the Seventh of *April*, 1683. The first thing we then took care to do, was to return our humble thanks to Almighty God, for our good Success, and for that he had carried us in safety to the end of our Voyage, after more than Eight Hundred Leagues, sailing and rowing with so small a handful of Men, and so little Ammunition; and that through so many barbarous Nations, which we had not only discover'd, but in some measure made subject to us. We Sung the *Te Deum*; after which, taking our Canoos, and our Equipage upon Sledges, we went and planted our Huts a little above the Shore, to be out of the reach of the Sea, which wholly overflows it, after six Hours Ebb, during which it's left quite dry.

Having

Having pitched here our New camp, we fastned a Cross to the top of a large Tree, and set up the Arms of *France*: After which we raised three or four Huts more, and Entrenched our selves there. When M. de la Salle took the Altitude, to know where the Mouth of the *Mississipi* was. The *Spaniards*, who had attempted to find it out, to' in vain, had already given it the Name of *Del Rio Ascondido*. According to M. de la Salle's Calculation, it is between the Twenty second and Twenty third Degree of Latitude; that it throws it self to the Gulph of *Mexico*, with a large Channel which is Twenty leagues wide, and very deep and navigable.

M. de la Salle would be a little acquainted with its Shores, before he would leave them. It is certain that they are not fit to be inhabited, by reason of the frequent inundations by the Spring-Tides, and

and the Barrenness of the Shore ; there is nothing but Canes and Reeds, and Woods overthrown. But about a League and a half within the Country, it is the most pleasant the World, fine large Meadows fair Woods full of Mulberry-trees Nut-trees, and Chesnut-trees. The Fields are covered with all sorts of Fruit-Trees, as Orange, Lemmon, Pomegranate, and the sides of the Hills with Vines, and the Fields bear *Indian* Corn twice a Year. We saw in all their Ponds and Rivers vast quantities of Water-Fowls, Geese, Ducks, and Teal, Moor-hens &c. and in the Woods and Fields Partridges, Pheasants, Quails, and other kind of Fowl ; of four-footed Creatures all sorts, especially one large sort of Oxen, which they call *Cibola's* ; these are much larger than any hath been mentioned and are raised like a Cammel from the Chine to the middle of the Back ; they feed among the Canes and go together sometimes no less in number than Fifteen Hundred.

The

They Hunt them after a particular manner. When they are in the midst of these Canes, where there is no coming at them, the Savages get round about them, and set fire to 'em in several places, especially when the Wind is something high, which makes at first a mighty smoke, which turns all of a sudden into a Flame, and this strikes so great a terrour into the Herd, that they all disperse themselves, and the Savages, who lie in wait upon Trees, shoot some with arrows, some with Bullets, and make an incredible Slaughter among them. By good Fortune, the Savages *Tangibao*, *Quinipissas*, and *Naves*, had been a Hunting when we were there (for they always join when they Hunt them) and they sent us three fine large ones, which we seiz'd, and having dress'd them, they feasted us all for three Days, and we had some left the day we went away from thence.

M.

M. de la Salle, having a mind to go and give an Account of his Discoveries to Count Frontenac, and to confirm the Nations he had gone through in the good esteem of us, resolved to go up the same River back again to the *Illinois*, and thence for the Lakes, in order to get to *Quebeck*, and from thence set Sail for *France*, and give the Court a true account of his Successes.

The Eleventh of *April* of the same Year 1683, we got in a Canoe on the said River; we were about Sixty of us. As this River divides it self into three Channels, about Fifty Leagues from the Sea, we came the first day to the place where they met together, and in Six days after that, to the Point where it divides it self: There our Victuals failing, it was highly necessary to look about us. The first Relief we met with, were some Crocodils; we kill'd two of 'em in

in a little while, that were pretty large: The flesh of them is good, white, firm, and very well tasted. It is as firm as Tunny, and near in taste to Salmon, and we feasted on it for some days. The Stream of our River began now to grow stronger against us, so that we were forced to get on Shore, and use our Sledges, as far as *Quinipissa's*. As this People had given us a scurvey welcome as we came down, we were forced to consult how we should do to make them a little more tractable, wherefore we sent two *Abenaguis*, and two *Loups* towards them. They met with four Women only, which they brought to us that Night. This Prize pleased us very well, hoping that by their means, we should best compass our Designs. We used those Women with all the Civility and Prudence imaginable; and being come near to their Village, the next morning we sent one of them home with some small Presents, to shew that we did not come

come in an Hostile manner, only wanted their Friendship, and what was chiefly necessary, some Recruits of our Provisions. She shewed them all the little Gewgaws we had given her, and related to them what good Entertainment she had received from us, and what Designs we came upon. Immediately they sent four of the Chief of their Nation to us, who brought along with them some Provisions, and invited us to come and be merry with them. We then restored the Three Women into their Hands, and we came nearer to them, but still standing upon our Guard. When we were come into their Village, they presented us some of their Fruits, and some Water-Fowl pretty well drest. After this Refreshment, we retired about a Hundred Paces from them, and lodged in our Huts that Night, between the Village and the River. By break of Day these treacherous Rogues surrounded, and attacked us: But they mist of their aim; for we had set Sentinels all that Night, and

and with their first Approach, we were prepared to receive them. We killed five or six the very first blow, upon which the rest fled; and we pursued them a little way, and having killed three or four more, we thought that was enough, and we took their Scalps with us to serve for a Trophy.

From thence we went forward to the *Naches*; we had hid some *Indian* Corn there, as we went down, and we found it again in very good condition. The Prince came straightway to receive us; M. de la Salle, after the first Compliments pass'd, presented him with the scalps of the *Quinipissa's* we had brought with us, who were his greatest Enemies. Which made it the more grateful, and served to shew him that we were not Men to be fool'd with.

The first thing he did, was to give order for something to be fetch'd to refresh us; which we freely

freely accepted of. All this while we observed that we saw no War-men in the Village, which made us suspect some Roguery. Notwithstanding we kept eating and drinking, and never seem'd to take any notice of any thing, but we kept our Arms all the while. A little while after we spied a great number of Men in Arms drawing towards us, and we in an instant put our selves in a posture of defence. But the Prince bid us fear nothing, and assured us that we never needed to entertain any suspicion of them; he went up to 'em and commanded them to halt. After which, he told us, that it was a Party of his Men who had been against the *Iroquois*, but that they for their own part were resolved ever to maintain a firm Friendship with us. His words he confirmed by some Presents that followed, and also some Provisions, which we heartily and thankfully received leaving them, by way of return some of our Canoos, which indeed were

were but cumbersome to us; and that we came off safe and sound, but we attributed our safety to our care and watchfulness.

After this, we continued our Course toward the *Tacuca's*, and the *Akancéa's*, who received us very handsomely at our Landing.

Thus, passing through so many different Nations, we made trial of the faithfulness of some, and the treachery of others; and by a due mixture of mildness and severity, and a constant care, we did not only frustrate their Designs, and avoid their Ambush, but we brought them to Terms, and made them submit to us.

On the Twelfth of May, 1683, we left the *Akancéa's*, and pushed forward to the Mouth of the River of the *Illinois*; after which we went on along the Shore, quite up to the Fort *Preudhomme*, where M. de la Salle fell dangerously ill. Father *Gabriel* staid with him, with good many of his Men; and I was commanded to go with Twenty of his Men to *Missilamachinac*,

I

to

to look after his Affairs. I left him there the Fifteenth of *May*.

I went the first Day to lie at *Ouabaches* ; where I was made very welcome.

Twenty Leagues further, I met with some *Iroquois*. These *Savages*, who are the most barbarous of all others, are sneakingly submissive when their Party is the weakest, but most unmerciful when they have an advantage. There was but Five of them that met us ; and they told us we should not go far e're we should meet a Company of above Four Hundred Men well Armed. This Advice made us take care to stand upon our Guard, for truly it is not very safe to fall into the Hands of these Barbarous People when they march in a Body. We had not gone a quarter of a League, but we spied a little Army, which we took at first to be *Iroquois*, but they were *Tavaroa's* who had joined themselves with some *Illinois*. They seeing our Fire-Arms, took us for *Iroquois*, and were going to surround us, with a Design to burn us, for that

the usual way of dealing with those barbarous Fellows, whensoever they get any of them; so great is the abhorrence which all Nations have against them. But the *Illinois* having discover'd who we were, they unbent their Bows, and gave us part of their Provisions. We pursued our Road to the River *Chicacou*, and after Twenty Days Journey, we at length arriv'd at *Missilimachinac*, in the beginning of *July*; where we staid for M. de la Salle, who came and join'd us in *September* the same Year. He staid there but three Days, to give some necessary Orders. He gave me the command of Fort *St. Louis*, with orders to see it finish'd, and a full power to dispose of the Lands adjacent, and left all his Men under me, except six *French* Men he took with him to *Quebeck*. We went away the same Day, he for *Canada*, I for the *Illinois*.

I went directly to *Miamis*, at the head of Forty Men, *French* and *Savages*. I came to it on the 6th

of *January*, 1684, and visited the Fort, which was in a very good condition. There I left Ten of my Men well Armed, and pursuing my Journey, I got, by the end of the Month, to Fort *St. Louis*. I set Men at work about it immediately, and in less than two Months time I completed it. Presently after this, I invited all the Neighbouring Nations to come to it.

There needed no great pains or Art to get them thither. The beauty of the Country, the fruitfulness of the Land, the convenience of a fine Navigable River; the nearness of about a Hundred different Nations, and of those little Lakes, or rather little Seas, which make it a fit Seat of Commerce for all *North America*; and reach from the River *St. Laurent* to the Gulf of *Mexico*. In short, the advantageous Scituation of this Fort, which was design'd as a Bulwark for all the Nations that should come to settle there, against all irruptions of the barbarous Nations, was a sufficient Invitation and Inducement

ment to them to come and dwell here. So that in a little time, there was above Five Hundred Huts made up, and in less than two Months, there was a wonderful great concourse of People of all Nations. By this it is easie to be seen, with how little difficulty the Savages might be tamed and polished, by planting here and there some Colonies of *Europeans*. For how few soever they be, they are, as it were a ciment of Concord and civil Society amongst the most barbarous Nations.

In the mean while M. de la Salle being arriv'd at *Quebec*, had the dissatisfaction not to meet with M. Comte de Frontenac; for he had been re-manded to *France* by an order from Court, and was gone thither. After his Arrival, he did not fail to acquaint all the City with the Discoveries he had made, and with the News of so many Nations yielding themselves subject to the King's Power. The *Te Deum* was sung, as an acknowledgment of this happy Addition of
I 3 glory

glory and Honour to the Crown. The earnest desire which M. de La Salle had, to go to give the King and his Ministers an Account of the success of his Travels, made him hasten his Departure. He went from Canada in the beginning of October, 1684. But before he set Sail, he sent the Chevalier de Bogis to me, as a Person that had been highly recommended to him. He came to me to St. Louis's Fort. I received him as well as I could and gave him the best Entertainment that my Condition would permit me.

On the Twentieth of March, in the same Year; having received Advice, that the *Iroquois*, being jealous of our new Establishment, were coming against us with considerable Forces; I sent an Express to M. de la Durantai, Governour of the Fort *Missilimachinac*, for some assistance. In the mean while I raised new Fortifications, and by means of good Ditches, Rampires, and other Works, I put the Village into a good posture of Defence.

ence. They came on the 28th of *March*, and lay before us, to the number of Five Hundred; we beat them back bravely in their very first Attacks; at last, after Six Weeks, we raised the Siege, and forced them to retire with the loss of Fourscore of theirs, and not of one of ours. They took a few slaves in the Neighbourhood, that they might have something to Brag of, and might not be thought to come back empty; but as they were just a going to flea their Scalps, the poor Wretches were happily so cunning as to get away, and came to us in our Fort.

About the 15th of *April*, M. de *la Durontai*, and Father de *Loy* a Jesuit, with Sixty *French* came to assist me, but it was needless then. In the mean while M. de *la Barre* was come to *Quebeck*, to succeed the Count de *Frontenac*. This Change was a dreadful blow to New *France* in general, which look'd upon Count de *Frontenac* as their Patron. But it proved no less severe, in respect to my own par-

ticular. For no sooner was this new Governour come over, who was a Friend and Relation of the Chevalier *de Bogia*, but he gave him the command of *St. Louis's* Fort; the rise and perfection of which were all owing to me. He directed his Orders to *M. de la Durontai*, to deliver to me; who informed me with the new Governour's Orders, to give up my Command of the place, and to invest the Chevalier therewith. I could do no other but obey the Orders. I left some considerable Effects in the Fort, whereof I made an Inventory, which the Chevalier was so kind as to set his Hand to; and I left the place the same day, taking with me what was of most moment and use. I first took the Road of *Montreal*, and thence went to *Quebeck*, where I arriv'd in the beginning of *July*. I could do no less than go and wait on the Governour, and give him a faithful Account of the Condition and Importance of the place, which I had left by his Order, and of the state of the Country in general. He
heard

heard me very courteously, and very civilly offer'd me any other Post should desire in *America*. I thank him for his kind Offers, and told him, I was not willing to take any employment until M. de la Salle came back; and so we parted.

As soon as I arriv'd, I did not fail to write to M. de la Salle, and give him an Account how I was served, and how I thought my self wronged, by being thus put out of the Command he had given me. Adding, that I fully thought there might be some danger of the Peoples sitting uneasy under a new Governour, and forsaking their new Habitations, or committing some Disorder. I writ besides M. de la Forest, a Friend of mine, to support my Interests with our common Protector. These Letters had all the good effect I could wish or hope for. I received an Answer to my Business by M. de la Forest himself, who came back to *Quebeck* in the latter end of July 1684. I had the satisfaction to learn from him what a gracious reception M. de la Salle had met with at Court, and what considerable Forces

ces the King had granted him to settle the Colonies in the New-found-lands; and withal that he was imbark'd for the Gulf of *Mexico*; but what compleated my joy was, that I triumphed over mine Enemies, by my restitution to St. *Louis's* Fort, the Quality of Governour, and Captain; for which this Gentleman brought me the Letters which M. *la Salle* had obtain'd from the King in my favour.

I equipp'd my self straightway with Arms and all Materials necessary, as well for the Fortification of the place, as for the raising of my Company. And after we had spent some days together at *Quebeck* M. *la Forest* and I, went away together the First of *November*, he for *Frontenac*, of which place he was governing Governour, and I for the *Illinois*.

The Ice putting a stop to our Voyage on the River of St. *Laurence*, we were forced to stay and Winter at *Montreal*, until the next Spring, 1685.

In the beginning of *April*, we got up the River again as far as the Fort

From

Montenac, where I took my leave of
M. de la Forest. I went in a Canoo on
the first Lake to Magara, where af-
ter I had shot the fall of the River, I
went to Missilimachinac, and then to
Kiamis, and being come to the Mouth
of the River of the Illinois, I went to
Fort St. Louis, about June 15 in the
same Year.

The Chevalier de Bogia, immedi-
ately entertain'd me with all pos-
sible marks of Joy, Friendship, and
respect; and I endeavour'd to make
a suitable return to his Kindness;
but at last, after having inform'd him
of M. de la Salle's Embarking, and of
other News then stirring; I found
my self oblig'd to shew him the Let-
ters Patents, to be Commander in
Chief, and Governour of Fort St. Lou-
is, with which the King thought fit
to honour me. He receiv'd this Or-
der with a great deal of submission,
and put me again in possession of the
place, with all the Effects with which
he had entrusted him, assuring me,
at the same time, that nevertheless
he should still be ready to do me ser-
vice upon all occasions, and always
to

to perform the Office of a faithful Friend. We spent the rest of the day together in amicable Conversation and the next Morning he departed the third time for the Town of *Quebec*.

In the mean while the *Miamis* and the *Illinois*, neighbouring Nations and our Allies, being at variance about certain trivial pretensions; I endeavour'd to reconcile them; having receiv'd from both Parties Hostages and Pledges of their Fidelity. In the beginning of *August*, being much disturb'd that I had heard no News of M. de la Salle, I pass'd over to *Mississippimachinac*, to make some Enquiry after him. There I was inform'd that the Marquess d'Enonville succeeded M. de la Barre, in quality of Governour of *New France*; and I had also the Honour to receive a Letter from him in which he was pleas'd to express his desire of entering into a Conference with me, about the Design he had to make War with the *Iroquois*; at the same time he gave me to understand, that M. de la Salle, having been for a long time at Sea, had, without doubt, already enter'd the Gulf with four tight

M. D'Enonville
nominated
in the place
of M. de la
Barre.

ht Ships, given him by the King,
that apparently he must needs
ve arriv'd at the Mouth of the Ri-
Mississipi, or in some other Port.

This Letter serv'd only to increase
Earnest desire I had to meet him,
omuch that I immediately took
e to provide what Supplies I could
him; fitted out Twenty *Canadi-*
, and returning to the *Illinois*, with
new Recruits; I arriv'd within
Month, at *St. Louis's* Fort: Where,
er having given necessary Orders,
est the Command of the Place to
e *Sieur de Bellefontaine*; and set for-
rd with Forty Men for the Gulf
Mexico. Thus we pass'd down our
ver into the great one of *Mississipi*,
low'd its Course to the Sea, and
ent about two Months in perform-
g this Voyage.

Upon our Arrival on the Sea shore,
t meeting with what I sought for,
r any Person who could give me
y Information about the matter,
sent out two Boats, *viz.* one to the
st, and the other to the *South-west*,
endeavour to make some Discove-
: They row'd up and down about
Twen-

Twenty Leagues from one side to another, along the Coast, and having descry'd nothing, were oblig'd stand in for some Port for want of Fresh Water, and return'd to join our Fleet, after a Course of two days without being able to get any notice of what I expected. All that I received from them by way of Consolation was only a Porpoise, and some very fine Shells of Mother of Pearl, which they took on a Rock.

Therefore perceiving that it would be to no purpose to wait there any longer, I advis'd with the most prudent Men of our Company, about the Course we ought to steer at our return. I was inclin'd to follow the Coast as far as *Menada*, hoping by this means, continually to discover some new Country, or to take some good Prize: But the most part were of the contrary Opinion; affirming it was safer to keep a known Road, rather than to take one that was not so, and which otherwise could not but be a very difficult passage; as well by reason of the High Lands along the Coast as for the great number of Rivers that

unloa

load themselves into the Sea; so that we were oblig'd to take a Resolution to return the same way that came.

Before our Departure, having observ'd, that the Tree on which M. La Salle had caus'd a Cross, with the Kings Arms to be set up, was ready to be thrown down by the boistrousness of the Winds and Waves, we got a little higher, where having Erected a large Pillar, we fixt a Cross on it, and underneath the Arms of France. We lodg'd that Night in the same place, but the next Morning being Easter Monday, A. D. 1685, we set forward on our Journey, travelling by Land along the Banks of the River *Mississipi*.

On the Sixth day, being arriv'd in the Country of the *Qinipissa's*; their Commander in Chief came to meet us, and having offer'd us the *Calumet*, begg'd pardon for their ill usage of us, during our last Voyage; entreating us that we would vouchsafe to admit 'em into the number of our Allies. However we answer'd their submissive Addresses very magisterially, and having refresh'd our selves a little

The Quinipissa's reconciled with the French.

*Ouma's
Savage
People.*

*A strange
Beast.*

little among 'em, we pursu'd our Journey. Four Leagues above, we discover'd in the Country a certain Nation, that had escap'd from us at our first Descent, I mean that the *Ouma's*, who are the most valiant of all the Savages; altho' it be true indeed, that as soon as they saw us and our Arms, they were struck with a kind of Astonishment, accompanied with a panick Fear, that quickly curb'd their fierceness, and oblig'd them to promise an entire Obedience to our Injunctions: They offer'd us some new Refreshments, and to serve us to the utmost of their power. In those Territories we observ'd an extraordinary rare Animal that partakes of the nature of a Wolf and a Lion; as having the Head and size of a large Wolf, but the Tail and Claws of a Lion: He devours all sorts of Beasts, yet never sets upon Men: He sometimes carries his Prey on his Back, eats part of it, and hides the rest under the Leaves of Trees, but the other Animals have so great an Antipathy against this Beast, which is call'd *Michibichi*, that they never touch what he leaves.

After

After the *Oumas* we met with the *Akanceas*. Indeed all these Countries *a Nation.* are so pleasant, and so extremely enrich'd with the Productions of Nature, that we could not sufficiently admire them: The Trees in the Woods, which are of an extraordinary height, seem'd to be artificially planted in Rows: The Soil brings forth good Grain, with great variety of Fruit-Trees, and the Fields are every where stor'd with all sorts of Game, both for Hawk and Pound; but there is also abundance of large wild Cats, which devour every thing that they can find. Our *French* Men charm'd with the Beauty of this Climate, desir'd leave of me to settle here; and forasmuch as our Intention was to civilize the Savages, and to render 'em sociable by our Conversation, I readily consented to their Request. Whereupon I made the Draught of a House for my self among the *Akan-*es, and left Ten *French* Men of my Continue with Four Savages, to carry on the Building of it; granting 'em a License to lodge there themselves, and cultivate as much Land as they could dig up, and clear of Trees: Insomuch, that this small Colony was in Process

of Time so extremely increas'd and improv'd, that it serves as a Place Rendez-vous to the *French*, who travel into those Parts.

From thence I continu'd my Course along the River of the *Illinois*, and after Three Days Journey arriv'd at St. Lewis's Fort, on the Festival of St. John, being less tir'd with the Fatigue of my Travels, than perplexed about the Uncertainty of M. De La Salle's Destiny. Forasmuch as I had not as yet paid my Respects to our new Governor; after having pass'd some Days in refreshing my self, I left the *Illinois* in the end of the Month of June, and arriv'd at *Montreal*, July 15. Then I went forthwith to salute the Governor, and receiv'd Orders from him, that because the War against the *Iroquois* was declar'd amongst our Allies, and to summon 'em to appear at St. Lewis's Fort, to carry on such an Expedition.

War declar'd against the *Iroquois*.

Having receiv'd this Commission, I soon took leave of Monsieur D'Ennerville, and arriv'd in the Country of the *Illinois*, Septemb. 4. from whence I speedily dispatch'd divers Couriers from all Parts, to give notice to the Neighbouring Nations of our Design, and to exhort

rt 'em to appear betimes at the place
Rendez-vous. Whereupon all the
 ople met together in the end of the
 onth of *March*, A. D. 1686. as well
 nois, as *Chianons* and *Niamis*. The
 hole Multitude consisted of about
 o Men; to whom I joyn'd 60 *French*
 en of my Company, leaving 40 in
 e Fort under the Command of M.
Bellefontaine. This small Army
 camp'd within a quarter of a League
 the Village; where having caused
 whole Body to stand to their Arms,
 eclar'd to 'em the King's Pleasure,
 the Governour's Orders; exhort-
 'em to signalize their Valour, and
 exert their utmost Force, to repress
 Insolence of the *Iroquois*, our com-
 n Enemies.

This Speech was follow'd with the
 eral Acclamations of all the People;
 ereupon I immediately put my self
 he Head of 'em, and began to march
 he Canal that joyns the two Lakes
 the *Suvrons* and the *Illinois*. In
 e Place stands a Fort that bears the
 me of *St. Joseph*, and which serves
 defend those small Seas. *Monsieur*
la Dumontay was the Commander
 t, to whom I sent one of our *French*-

St. Joseph's
Fort.

Men to give him notice of our Arrival. Upon which Information he immediately commanded his Lieutenant to meet me with 30 Men, and the next day he himself led up the like number. Then we encamped on the Banks of that Streight, and Provisions were brought to us thither from all Parts. Two Days after *M. de la Foret*, Governor of the Fort of *Frontenac*, and *M. Lude*, Commander of that of the *Missis*, each at the Head of his Company march'd to joyn our Army. All Forces being thus assembled, we held a Council of War, to consult what Measures ought to be taken, and it was determin'd, to divide the Army into two Bodies, one of which should be commanded by the *Sieurs de la Durantay*, and *de Lude*, to secure the Avenue of *Missilimachinac*, and to defend the Coasts of the Lake *Herie*, as far as *Nagara*; where we design'd to erect a Fort, which was already begun to be built, to curb the *Iroquois*, who always made some Opposition on that side. And that *M. de la Foret* and myself should be Commanders of the other Body, to invade the Enemies Country.

The management of Affairs being
 us dispos'd of, *M. de la Dumontay*
 march'd along the Coasts of *Missili-*
achinac, and met with a considerable
 Party of the Enemies, compos'd of a-
 bove 500 Men, as well *English* as *Iro-*
quois, (here it may be observ'd by the
 way, that those two Nations main-
 tain a strict mutual Amity, when en-
 g'd together against the *French*) The En-
 glish and
 Iroquois
 are uni-
 ted to
 make War
 with the
 French.
 and attack'd 'em so vigorously, that
 above half of 'em were kill'd on the
 spot; some Prisoners were taken; and
 the rest were put to flight.

On our side, at the distance of 20
 leagues from *Niagara*, we found Means
 to meet with a numerous Party of
English, *Iroquois*, and *Ouabaches*, who
 under the Conduct of Major *Gregory*,
 were conveying a great quantity of
 Candy, Provisions, Ammunition, and
 Merchandizes, to the Inhabitants of
 the *Iroquois*. We fell upon 'em; and
 after having kill'd the greatest part of
 the *Iroquois*, and of the other Savages,
 we seiz'd on their Baggages and Mer-
 chandizes, took a great number of
 Lives, and carry'd away above 25
English Men Prisoners. After this
 small Victory we continued our March

to *Niagara*, where we compleated the Building of the Fort in sight of the *Iroquois*, and even at the very Foot of their Habitations.

The prosperous Success of our Army in the beginning oblig'd us to send a Messenger to the Governour, to give him an Account of every thing that had pass'd, and *M. de la Foret*, who was very desirous to accept of this Commission, set forward with all possible speed. *M. D'Enonville* receiv'd the Information with a great deal of Satisfaction, caus'd it to be communicated to the whole Continent of *Canada*; and sent us fresh Supplies of *Hurons*, *Plonontean* and *Ouatoua's*; who came to meet us at the Rise of the Cataract, with a Bark very well mann'd.

Thus being re-enforc'd with these new Recruits, I march'd further into the Territories of the Enemies; but we entertain'd in our Camp a certain *Iroquois*, who feigning to be disgusted at the Proceedings of his own Nation, seem'd to be extremely well affected to ours; nevertheless this treacherous Renegado took an Opportunity to abandon us to return to the *Enemies Army*, and gave 'em notice of our March, as also of the

Marks

arks of our Savages, so as they might certainly discover'd. Thus as we were continually advancing forward, arriv'd on the other side of a Mo-
s, at the distance of Three Leagues in the Camp of the *Iroquois*; where some of 'em lay in Ambush, expecting our Approach, and kill'd Seven of our Men, among whom was my Sub-Lieutenant: However we soon repuls'd 'em vigorously, and ever having cut off above Thirty of their Party, pursu'd 'em to the Woods; but not being able to come up with them, and not judging it safe to advance any further, lest we should fall into another Ambuscade, we contented ourselves to plunder their Villages, where we put to the Edge of the Sword every one whom we met in our way.

We encamped for some Days in that place, and the Army under the Command of *M. de Lude* and *M. de la Durantay* came to joyn ours. The next day after their Arrival we did not stay a moment, e're we took a Resolution to force the Enemies Camp; who being inform'd of our Design, by their spies, did not think fit to wait for our

Approach, but decamp'd with great Precipitation. We found in their Camp some Remainders of *Indian* Corn and other Provisions, which we made use of to our Advantage, and we spent the Night in their Tents, or rather Huts; the Season being already very far advanc'd. The next Morning we sent back all our Allies to their several Territories, with Orders to meet together again upon the first Summons; while the *Sieurs de la Lude* and *de la Dumontay* repair'd to their Respective Stations.

As I was marching to mine, I met with certain *Hurons*, who gave me to understand, that I was ready to be surrounded with the whole Army of the *Iroquois*. There was no longer any Means to have recourse to *M. de Lude* and *de la Dumontay*, who were already embark'd in Canoes on the Lakes insomuch, that I was oblig'd to cause my small Band of Men to halt, and instantly to dispatch a Courier to *Niagara* to demand speedy Succours of the Commander of the new Fort. It happen'd accidentally, that *M. de la Vallée*, the Governour of it, supposing us to be engag'd with the *Iroquois*, was leading up Fifty Fusileers to our Relief,

and

and in the mean while the Messenger whom I sent, having met with him, inform'd him of our present Distress, which caus'd him to hasten his March: His Arrival inspir'd us with new Courage, so that the Enemies appearing, we set our small Army in Battel-array; yet when we had advanced towards them within Musket-shot, they had not the Courage to stay for our coming up, but suddenly turn'd their Backs upon us: Whereupon we pursued 'em for some time, till about 100 of them perish'd on the spot, and the rest found Means to escape into the Woods. Then immediately caus'd a Retreat to be sounded; and having convoy'd *M. de Lalromè* on part of his way, I judg'd it expedient to take up our Winter-Quarters at *Missilimachinat*, and to reside there till the next Campaign, in case the War should continue.

The Scene of Affairs began now to be chang'd; for the *Iroquois* resign'd to us ^{The Iroquois forc'd to submit.} their Habitations that were near *Niagara*; made a Present of their best Skins to the Governour; and engag'd that for the future they should not disturb the Tranquillity of the Nations that were under our Protection, and who were
our

our Allies. A Treaty of Peace being thus concluded, I set forward in my Journey to the Country of the *Illinois* in the Month of *April*, 1687. and should have been very well satisfied with the Success of the Campaign, if I had not been continually troubled, by reason of *M. De la Salle's* long Absence, not knowing what might have befallen him. For he set out from *America*, A.D. 1683. and we did so in 1687. so that Four Years were almost past, without having any other News of him, than that of his re-embarking, or his Departure from *Rochel* for the Gulph of *Mexico*, but without getting the least Information concerning his Return. Indeed I knew not what to think. Did he not perish (said I to my self) by Shipwreck, or rather did he not land on some Coast, inhabited by Barbarians, who perhaps might have dispatch'd him out of the way? Thus being perplex'd with such distracting Thoughts, I could take no Rest, neither could I Steer any certain Course, but suffering my self to be conducted by my Attendants, rather than leading 'em my self, I arriv'd at *St. Lewis's Fort* in the end of the Month of *May*.

As soon as I enter'd my House, I
as extremely surpriz'd, there to meet
with *M. Cavelier*, *M. De La Salle's* own
brother, and indeed, I did not discern
his Countenance that free and spright-
Air, which usually appears at the first
meeting of two Friends, after a long In-
terval of Separation : However, the first
transports of my Joy, not permitting
me to make long Reflections, I incon-
veniently embrac'd him, and at the
same time enquir'd of him about his
brother's Welfare. Upon this Address,
he appear'd to be altogether put to a
stand ; so that a sad Look up to Hea-
ven, a deep Sigh, and a certain Effort,
which he seem'd to make within him-
self, were taken by me as so many ill
omens ; I earnestly entreated him to
conceal nothing from me, and after he
had recover'd himself a little, he told
me very positively, ' That *M. de la Salle*
his Brother was in perfect Health ;
but that the ill Success of his Naviga-
tion had so far pull'd down his Spirits,
that he had scarce Courage to conti-
nue his Course ; that in returning by
small Voyages, he took delight in
trading with the different Nations,
whom he met with ; and that ha-
' ving

‘ving charg’d him to go before, to
 ‘give me notice of his Arrival, he de-
 ‘termin’d still to reside among the Na-
 ‘ches and *Akanceas* for some time, to
 ‘purchase certain Merchandizes of both
 ‘those Nations.

The Assurance, with which he
 spoke to me, joyn’d with a Shew of
 downright Integrity, which was na-
 tural to him, besides the Deference due
 to a Person of his Character; for he
 was a Priest, would not suffer me in
 the least to call in Question the vera-
 city of his Relation, and serv’d a lit-
 tle to encourage me against my sad
 Presages. Therefore I entreated him
 to give me an Account of his Voyage,
 and to let me know when they re-em-
 bark’d, and at what time they landed.
 Since then I gave him a great deal of
 Scope, to deliver his Mind ingenuously,
 and without Constraint, he began to
 relate the particular Circumstances
 with so much the more Freedom.

He told me at first, ‘That the whole
 ‘Court of *France*, being charm’d with
 ‘the great Discoveries made by *M. de*
 ‘*la Salle*, the King made no scruple at
 ‘all to grant him the Supplies he de-
 ‘sir’d; not to mention the Titles of
 ‘Ho-

Honour, that procur'd him greater Authority in his new Plantations: That they set out from *France*, July 24. A. D. 1684. with four Vessels, very well provided of all things necessary, and above 200 Men, as well Soldiers as Artificers of all sorts of Trades, and that nevertheless by a Complication of Misfortunes, their whole Fleet was reduc'd to a few Boats, and that great number of Persons, to Seven or Eight *French* Men, who serv'd as a Convoy to his Brother during his Return.

Forasmuch as these Remarkable Crosses afforded Matter of Wonder, I could not choose but be very desirous to be inform'd of all the Particulars of their Adventures: Whereupon M. *Cavelier* resuming his former Narrative from the beginning of their Navigation, told me, ' That after a Calm which continued for some Days, in the Latitude of *St. Domingo*, they were suddenly surpriz'd with a violent Storm; insomuch, that one of their Ships, laden with Merchandizes, to the value of above Thirty Thousand Livres, was hurry'd away with a furious Blast of Wind, and afterwards
' taken

† *Piroques*. ' taken by certain *Spanish* † Rover
 ' That the rest of the Fleet cast Ancho
 ' before the same Island, where the
 ' were soon refitted, and supply'd wit
 ' fresh Provisions, which with the Mer
 ' chandizes there bought, serv'd for th
 ' Cargo of these Vessels, but that th
 ' greatest part of the Mariners, by li
 ' ving somewhat too licentiouslly, con
 ' tracted very dangerous Diseases.
 ' That they cruis'd about from thence
 ' towards the Islands of *Caiman*; and
 ' took in fresh Water on that of *Cuba*
 ' where, having found many Tuns of
 ' Canary, good Brandy, Sugar, and
 ' *Indian* Corn left unguarded, they
 ' seiz'd on the whole Cargo, and got
 ' such Reprisals as were sufficient to
 ' make 'em amends for the loss of every
 ' thing that the *Spaniards* had taken
 ' from them before: That afterwards
 ' being supply'd with all manner of
 ' Provisions, they set Sail again; and
 ' that having always had a favourable
 ' Gale of Wind, they would have en-
 ' ter'd the Gulph of *Mexico*; but that
 ' perceiving the Currents to be very
 ' rapid, and the Shelves to be nume-
 ' rous, they were oblig'd to stand off
 ' from the Shoar, which hinder'd M.

' de

de la Salle from lighting on the exact degree of Latitude, for the Mouth of the River *Mississipi*; insomuch, that to avoid the exposing of the Men to greater Dangers, he order'd 'em to land at the Bay of *Spiritu Santo*, 50 Leagues below the River they sought for: But two Days after, hoping to discover it, they got on Board their Ships again, and always taking care to steer into the Main, to shun the Rocks and Shelves, they at last arriv'd a great deal higher in a Bay, afterwards known by the name of *St. Lewis*. This Bay is of a very convenient Depth for a Harbour; but 'tis dangerous landing there, as well by reason of the Shelves of Sand that encompass it; as for the Rocks with which 'tis beset on all sides.

' Indeed the missing of the Entrance of the River (continued he) would have been no great Detriment to us; for after having once arriv'd so near its Mouth, it would have been difficult to descry it, at least by Land; afterwards to convey our Ships thither; to form a kind of Harbour, to prevent Mistakes for the future; and even to build a regular Port; but ill
' Luck

' Luck would have it, that after *M. de*
 ' *Beaujeu*, who commanded one of the
 ' three Vessels, was come on Board of
 ' Ship; the two others were lost, a
 ' well by the ill Management of the
 ' Pilot, as by the Carelesness of the
 ' Mariners; for the first ran upon
 ' Shelf of Sand in the Mouth of the
 ' Bay, from whence it was impossible
 ' to get her off, notwithstanding our
 ' utmost Endeavours; altho' indeed
 ' we were so fortunate as to save the
 ' Men, and the best of our Effects. The
 ' other Ship was dash'd in pieces a
 ' gainst a Rock, even in the very Har
 ' bour, with the loss of the most part
 ' of the Mariners; but we had luck
 ' kily unloaded it of all our Pro
 ' visions and Merchandizes: Besides
 ' that the greatest part of our Compa
 ' ny and Goods were set ashore by *M.*
 ' *de Beaujeu*, who after having been
 ' Witness of our Misfortunes, set Sail
 ' to return for *France*.

M. Cavelier having thus related the
 Disasters that beset their Fleet, pro
 ceeded to give the following Narration
 of the other Adventures and Occurren
 ces that happen'd during their Voyage
 ' To reckon (*said he*) from July 24
 A. D.

A. D. 1684. the Day of our Departure from *Rochel*, to *Feb.* 18. in the next Year 1685. when we disembark'd at *St. Lewis's Bay*, about Seven Months were pass'd; at what time my Brother having gather'd together the Fragments of our Vessels, and after having discover'd the advantageous Situation of the Country at the Mouth of a very fine River, call'd *the River of* The River of Cows. *Cows*, in the midst of many others that fall into the same Bay, with a great number of populous Nations, and the delightful Prospects caus'd by the enamell'd Verdure of the Lands, the Abundance of Fruit, and the numerous Herds of Cattle, was soon induc'd to cause a fine Seat to be built for himself in those Parts; having at first made the Draught of a Fort, and delineated the Compass of it; giving Orders at the same time for putting his Design in Execution: And indeed, the necessity of building some Apartments for Lodging, and the convenience of procuring Timber and Mortar contributed so far to the carrying on of the Work, that it was entirely compleated within the space of Two Months.

L

' In

‘ In the mean while, *M. de la Salle*
‘ growing more impatient than ever
‘ to recover the River of *Mississipi*, made
‘ Incursions on all sides to descry it.
‘ Forasmuch as that whole Country
‘ is divided by a great number of Ri-
‘ vers that empty themselves at divers
‘ Intervals into the Bay ; he sometimes
‘ travell’d by Land, and sometimes in a
‘ Canoo, accompanied with Ten or
‘ Twelve *French* Men, arm’d with good
‘ Fuses: At every one of those Di-
‘ stances he met with several Habita-
‘ tions of the Savages, and every where
‘ abundance of all sorts of necessary Pro-
‘ visions, even so much as tame Fowl.

‘ At last after Fifteen Days search
‘ he met with a spacious River, and
‘ follow’d the Course of it for Seven or
‘ Eight Leagues to the Place, where it
‘ rolls into the Sea, and perceiv’d it to
‘ be really that which he had so long
‘ sought for, and the Mouth of which
‘ he was not able to discover : There-
‘ fore he took an Observation of its La-
‘ titude again, that he might not miss it,
‘ in case he should have occasion to pass
‘ thro’ the Gulph at any other time. Thus
‘ being well satisfied with this Discove-
‘ ry, and yet more delighted with the

Fruit.

Fruitfulness of the adjacent Territories, he return'd to his new Colony; but as an addition to his former Misfortunes, he soon found that some of his Men died, quite worn out with those lingering Diseases, which they had contracted at *St. Domingo*, and that above Forty of them were assassinated by the Savages. He was extremely afflicted at so great a loss; but having fortify'd himself against immoderate Grief, he summon'd those that were left (the number of whom did not amount to 100) encourag'd 'em, and exhorted 'em to take care that by the Means of their Labour, mutual Concord, Industry and good Correspondence with the *Barbarians*, they might make Advantage of the Riches that Nature afforded 'em, in great abundance.

Since the newly discover'd Countries appear'd to *M. de la Salle*, to be so many conquer'd Provinces; and in regard that all the Losses he might sustain seem'd to him to be of no account, in comparison of one Nation, that was voluntarily subdu'd; he endeavour'd to comfort himself with the Hopes of better Success in the Un-

L 2 dertaking

'dertaking of some other Voyages, and
 'thus having taken a new Resolution,
 'he determin'd to discover those vast
 'Territories which are situated between
 'the River *Mississipi*, and the Gulph of
 'Mexico, to the South-east. On the 22^d.
 'Day of *April*, 1685. he set out from St.
 'Lewis's Bay for this new Voyage, tak-
 'ing along with him only Twenty
 'Persons, among whom were our two
 'Nephews, *Cavelier* and *De Moranget*,
 'a Father of the Order of *Recolet* and
 'my self. Our whole Equipage con-
 'sisted only in two Canoes, and as
 'many Sledges to carry our Provisions
 'and Merchandizes.

'On the first Day we pass'd above 20
 'Rivers, the Territories lying round
 'about which, appear'd to us to be as
 'it were an enchanted Country, and
 'conversed with a very obliging sort of
 'People, who deny'd us nothing. 'Tis
 'also remarkable that in those Parts a-
 'mong the horned Beasts, in the Mea-
 'dows we saw a great number of Hor-
 'ses: but so wild, that one cannot
 'come near 'em.

'On the second Day, we began to get
 'our living by hunting; we kill'd a
 'Roe-Buck, and lay that Night, in the o-
 'pen

pen Fields, in the middle of a small Retrenchment: Ever since that time we made an Agreement to use the like Precaution in every Place, where we should have occasion to take up our Lodging.

‘ On the third Day, about Noon, we met with Four Booted Horse-men, who accosted us in a very respectful manner, asking us who we were, and where we were going? We declar’d to ’em, that we were *French Men*, and we were only Travelling through those Countries, with a Design to discover the several Nations of *America*, and to offer ’em the Protection of the King of the *French*, one of the greatest Monarchs in the Universe: And that if they were willing to submit to his Power, they should soon be sensible of the Effects of his Favour, by the means of his numerous Fleet: They on the other side immediately entreated us to accept of a Lodging in their Cottages, and to accompany ’em to their Village: We readily consented to their Request, and were very kindly entertain’d by them.

The Meeting of four Booted Horsemen.

Quoquis
a Nation
of the Sa-
vages.

This was the Nation of the Quoquis
or Mahis: The Men are of a very
swarthy Complexion, neither are the
Women more fair; they have very
fine black Hair; their Eyes being
also black, their Face and Nose flat,
and their Teeth very white: Other-
wise, their Carriage is free and unaf-
fected. The Men in those Parts are
cloath'd with Corsets of double Lea-
ther, which are Arrow-proof; wear-
ing from the Waste to the Knees a
kind of Pantaloon Breeches, made of
the Skin of a Bear, Stag, or Wolf,
and their Head is cover'd with a sort
of Turban of the same Skins: They
have also Boots or Buskins of the Skins
of an Ox, Elk or Horse, very artifi-
cially dress'd. For the Horse-Furni-
ture, besides their Corsets, Buskins
and Bucklers, cover'd with the hard-
est Skins; they have Saddles made of
many pieces of Leather, fitted and
glu'd one upon another; as also
Wooden Stirrups; Bridles like ours,
and Bits made of the Teeth of a Bear
or Wolf. As for their Women, they
wear instead of a Bonnet a Contexture
of Rushes or Reeds, of divers Colours;
their Hair being sometimes braided,
and

Their Wo-
men.

and sometimes tied in Knots: Their Body is cover'd with a Vest of very fine Wool, reaching half way down their Thighs: They are shod almost after the same manner as the Men, and wear Buskins on their Legs.

' We only lodg'd with 'em one Night, but always stood upon our Guard, watching by Turns from time to time. The next day, the chief Commander came to meet us with certain Presents, as *Indian* Corn, and to assure us, &c. That they should be always very willing to keep an amicable Correspondence with us, and to live under the Laws of that Prince, whom we acknowledged: On the other side we made 'em a Present of some Knives, with Glasses, and other Toys, for their Wives; after which we took Leave of 'em, and continu'd our Journey.

' About Two Leagues from thence we found our selves on the Banks of a very fine River, which we call'd *Riber* from one of our Retinue, so Riber River, why so call'd. nam'd, who was drown'd therein. There were numerous Herds of *Cibolas*, feeding along the sides of this River, of which we instantly kill'd three, and caus'd 'em to be * salted, * Boucaner.

The River
Hiens.

Biscaton-
ges, a Na-
tion of the
Savages,
surnamed
Weepers.

to serve for our Provision. At the
distance of a League from the same
River we got up another, that is more
rapid, and on which we imposed the
name of *Hiens*, from that of a certain
German of our Company, who con-
tinued Three Days lost thereabouts,
having ventured to go too far into
the Woods, by reason of the great
Delight he took in hunting.

Thus in pursuing our Journey,
sometimes in the Plains, and some-
times across the Torrents and Rivers
which we pass'd in our Canoes, we
arriv'd in the midst of a very extra-
ordinary Nation, call'd the *Bisca-*
tonges, to whom we gave the
Name of Weepers, in regard that
upon the first Approach of Strangers,
all these People, as well Men as Wo-
men, usually fall a weeping bitterly:
The reason of their Practice is very
particular; for these poor People i-
magining that their Relations or
Friends deceased are gone a Journey,
and continually expecting their return;
the remembrance of 'em is reviv'd
upon the Arrival of new Passengers;
but forasmuch as they do not find
in their Persons those whose Loss

they

they lament, it serves only to encrease their Grief. That which is yet more remarkable, and perhaps even very reasonable in that Custom, is, that they weep much more at the Birth of their Children, than at their Death; because the latter is esteem'd only by 'em as it were a Journey or Voyage, from whence they may return after the Expiration of a certain time; but they look upon their Nativity, as an Inlet into an Ocean of Dangers and Misfortunes. Let the case be how it will, this first Torrent of Tears being once over, nothing was to be seen among the whole Multitude of these People, but a serene Aspect, and an engaging Air, full of Kindness and Respect: They conducted us into their Huts that were neatly matted, where they offer'd us some powder'd Beef and Venison, with some *Sagavite*, their ordinary Bread; which they make with a certain Root, call'd *Toquo*, being a kind of Bramble. After having wash'd, dry'd, and beaten it to Powder, they make it up into a Paste; which being bak'd, is of a very good taste, but of an Astringent Quality. We added to their Treat a little of our
 { Brandy,

Sagavite,
a sort of
Bread.

' Brandy, and gave 'em a Couple
 ' Bottles full of that Liquor : Whereup
 ' on they made us a Present of divers
 ' Skins, well dress'd, which serv'd to
 ' make us good Shoes. These People
 ' worship no other Deity but the Sun
 ' and that is the peculiar God of almost
 ' all those Nations : Upon which occa
 ' sion we told 'em, That our Prince was
 ' the Sun of other Kings ; that his Lustre
 ' was spread abroad throughout the
 ' whole Continent of *Europe*, and even
 ' in divers Parts of *America* : That
 ' they would submit to his Authority
 ' they should ere long be sensible of
 ' some of the Effects of his Grandeur
 ' and Generosity. Whereupon they
 ' readily submitted, and took an Oath
 ' to maintain a mutual Friendship with
 ' us for ever.

' Having spent two Days among that
 ' weeping Nation, we set forward a
 ' gain in our Journey. On the first
 ' Day we travell'd Ten large Leagues
 ' almost continually in the Woods
 ' and afterwards we arriv'd within
 ' sight of a great Village, in the en
 ' trance of which we espy a huge
 ' Roe-Buck, which a *Chaouanous* of our
 ' Retinue, aim'd at, and kill'd with one

' Fufee

Fusee-shot. The Report of the Gun, ^{A Fusee}
 and the Flame that accompany'd it ^{let off,}
 appear'd so dreadful to those Inhabi- ^{strikes a}
 tants, that at the very sight of our Com- ^{Terror into}
 pany and Arms, they were all ex- ^{the Minds}
 tremely terrify'd, and betook them- ^{of the Sa-}
 selves to flight. The chief Commam- ^{vages.}
 der, and three of his Sons, having
 shew'd more Resolution, brought 'em
 out of their Panick Fear; so that they
 advanc'd towards us, to offer us
 some Refreshment; and the use of
 some of their Huts for our Lodging,
 during the Night. But my Brother
 not judging it convenient to trust 'em,
 we took up our Quarters a little fur-
 ther off, according to our usual Cu-
 stom. It was well for us that we
 were so cautious; for the next Morn-
 ing, at break of day, we discern'd a
 great number of that Rabble, lying
 in Ambush among the Reeds, and
 arm'd with Bows and Arrows. M.
 De la Salle immediately caus'd 'em to
 be rudely attack'd, and oblig'd 'em to
 call for Quarter. But they were re-
 leased for a certain quantity of *Indian*
 Corn, which the Son of their Com-
 mander brought to us, and we im-
 mediately took a resolution to decamp.

‘ At

The Chi-
nonoas
know how
to distin-
guish the
French
from the
Spaniards.

At the distance of six Leagues from
thence we came to another Village
consisting of above 300 Huts, inhabit-
ed by the *Chinonoas*, who receiv'd
very favourably. All these Countries
are situated almost on the Eastern
Coast of the Sea of *Mexico*; so that the
Spaniards frequently make Inroads
to them, and abuse the Natives after
a most outrageous manner: Insomuch
that these Savages knew how to dis-
tinguish us from them, by the Air
of our Countenance, our Language and
Deportment; and the Antipathy they
had against all those of that Nation
serv'd only to encrease their Friendship
and Kindness towards us.

We soon gave 'em to understand
that there was no manner of Cor-
respondence between the *Spaniards* and
us, and that they were our declared
Enemies: Whereupon having offer'd
us every thing that was in their Pos-
session, they entreated us to unite with
them, in order to maintain a vigorous
War against the *Spanish* Nation.

We reply'd, That we were not at pre-
sent in a condition to do it, but that
we would speedily return, with great-
er numbers to assist 'em, insomuch

tha

that having spent the Night very peaceably among those People, we departed the next day, laden with a great deal of *Indian* Corn, and very fine Skins.

We had scarce march'd a League on the Road, when a certain Person of our Company found himself stung by a Viper, and suddenly made a hideous Outcry: Within less space than half a quarter of an Hour, his Body swell'd prodigiously, and became all over livid. We immediately made large Incisions on the part affected, bathing it with Brandy and Salt of Vipers, and gave him some *Orvietan*; so that after Two Days he was perfectly cur'd.

Then we continu'd our Journey, and after Two Days march we arriv'd on the Banks of a very rapid River: It was requisite to pass it, and we were then destitute of Canoos; for those we made use of before were so leaky, that they took in Water on all sides, and we were forc'd to leave 'em, as being no longer serviceable to us. Therefore we could find no other Expedient, but to make a * little Boat of Canes, and many * Twigs

*A Man
stung by a
Viper.*

*The Pas-
sage over
a rapid
River.*

Caen.

‘Twigs of Trees, twisted one with
‘another, and cover’d with our be
‘Skins. My Brother and our two Ne
‘phews first went on board with tw
‘Savages to steer it, whilst I stay
‘with the rest of our Company on th
‘side of the River. They were scarc
‘got into the middle of the Current
‘when the Swiftness of the Stream hur
‘ry’d ’em away in a moment, and too
‘’em out of our sight: But by singula
‘good Luck the Boat was stopt abou
‘half a large League from thence, by a
‘great Tree that floated on the Water
‘being half pluck’d up by the Roots;
‘so that grappling the Branches, by
‘the means of certain Poles, they at
‘last made a shift to get over to the o
‘ther side, otherwise the extreme Swift
‘ness of the River would undoubtedly
‘have carry’d ’em into the Sea.

‘In the mean while, we were very sol
‘licitous to know what was become of
‘’em; we incessantly follow’d the
‘Course of our Bank, looking forward
‘as far as possibly we could, and cry
‘ing out with all our force to endea
‘vour to recall, or to discover ’em. We
‘spent a whole Day and a Night in this
‘Anxiety, and the next Day we began
‘the

the same Toil again, till at last they answer'd us, and we descry'd 'em on the other side. 'Twas absolutely necessary to joyn 'em, and to that end we were forc'd to expose our selves to the same Danger. Therefore we set about the making of a new Boat, (for the first was unjoynted, and no longer capable of holding any thing) and having provided strong Poles, we all pass'd over at several times, with as much safety as could be wish'd for. Our whole Company being thus re united, we pursu'd our Course under the Conduct of my Brother, who had no other Compass to steer by than his Genius. In the mean while one of our Hunters stragling to follow the Game, we lost him a whole Day. But the next Morning, we saw him again laden with two Roe-Bucks: He had also kill'd another at the same time, and left it at the Distance of half a quarter of a League: Therefore, after having given us the two, he went back, attended with an *Abenaguis*, to fetch the other, and having brought it, we feasted our selves with part of his Venison, and kept the rest for our Provision.

' Hav-

*A Savage
on Horse-
back de-
mands who
we are.*

‘ Having pass’d from thence into the
‘ most delightful and most populous
‘ Countries of all the others, after
‘ March of Six or Seven Leagues, we
‘ saw making up towards us a certain
‘ Savage on Horse-back, with his Wife
‘ behind him, attended with four Slaves
‘ who were well mounted. This Man
‘ accosting us, enquir’d who we were
‘ and what we sought for in that Coun-
‘ try? My Brother gave him time to
‘ understand, as well by his own
‘ Mouth, as by that of the Savages of
‘ his Retinue, that we were *French*
‘ Men, and that our Design was only
‘ to offer to all the People of their Con-
‘ tinent, as far as the Gulph of *Mexico*
‘ our Alliance, and the Protection of
‘ the King of *France*. Whereupon the
‘ same Savage immediately alighted
‘ presented his Horse to my Brother,
‘ and even constrain’d him by his ear-
‘ nest Entreaties to accept of it, and to
‘ go to the Place of their Habitation;
‘ assuring him, that he should be very
‘ welcome, and that his Proposals
‘ should be favourably heard. My
‘ Brother, after having return’d him
‘ many Thanks for his Kindness, told
‘ him, that before he proceeded so far,

‘ he

he would very willingly be inform'd of the Opinion of his whole Nation, by an Envoy, sent to them to that purpose. The Savage receiv'd this Answer very favourably, and by a Surplusage of Civility left his Wife and one of his Slaves for Hostages: My Brother on the other side gave him his Nephew *Cavelier* and two *Chaouanous*. The Savage mounted on a Horse that belong'd to one of his Slaves, and my Nephew *Cavelier* on that which was given my Brother. The next Day our Envoy return'd with our two *Chaouanous*, both mounted on fine Horses, laden with all sorts of Provisions, and made a Report no less agreeable than surprising, of the kind Entertainment he had receiv'd from those People, who are call'd *Cenis*. The place of their Habitation is extended 20 Leagues in compass, and divided into many Hamlets, situated near one another. Their *Cottages* are 40 or 50 Foot high, being made of thick Branches of Trees, which meeting together in a point at the top, form a kind of arched Roof; the inside of 'em is well matted, and always kept very neat, even to Admiration.

M

M.

*Cenis, a
Nation of
the Sava-
ges.*

‘ *M. de La Salle* being inform’d of
‘ their good Intentions, did not fail to
‘ convey himself thither the next Day,
‘ and saw the principal Elders of the
‘ Nation, who were all adorn’d with
‘ Plumes of Feathers, and cloath’d with
‘ their richest Skins, coming to meet
‘ him, at the distance of 200 Paces from
‘ the Village. My Brother receiv’d
‘ em at the Head of his Company
‘ and the first Salute being given with
‘ Reciprocal Compliments, he was
‘ conducted to the Village by the Com
‘ mander in chief a-cross a very fine
‘ Body of young Men, drawn up in
‘ Arms, and thro’ a very great concourse
‘ of People: Afterwards he and his
‘ Company were led into a Quarter
‘ which seem’d to constitute a separat
‘ ed Hamlet, and were there nobly en
‘ tertain’d. The Commander was con
‘ vinced of the Magnificence of our
‘ Prince, by the Character he receiv’d
‘ of him from *M. de la Salle*, acknow
‘ ledg’d him as his Sovereign, and made
‘ my Brother a Present of six good
‘ Horses, and of his finest Skins; who on
‘ the other side presented the said Com
‘ mander with divers Hatchets, Sizers,
‘ Knives, and Razors, which he ac
‘ cepted with a great deal of Compl
‘ cence

cency and Satisfaction. At that time the Ambassadors of a certain Nation call'd the *Choumans*, resided there, ^{Ambassadors of the Choumans.} and the occasion of their Embassie was to propose the making of a League with 'em, to carry on a War against the *Spaniards*, their Enemies, and Tyrannical Persecutors: They gave us a Visit, and solicited us to enter into the same League; insomuch, that we promised to assist 'em, after we had made an end of our Voyage; and they took an Oath, as the others had done, to maintain an inviolable Friendship with our Nation.

' The *Nassonis* have their Habitations at the distance of a Days Journey from the *Cenis*, and we thought fit also to ^{Nassonis, a Nation of the Savages.} pass into their Territories, where we receiv'd the like Entertainment, meeting with the same Acknowledgments, and the same Protestations of Amity. And indeed, all these Nations have an equal Antipathy against the *Spaniards*. The Pastures in those Parts afford Fodder to numerous Herds of Oxen and Horses, and in all the Enclosures belonging to their private Families are to be seen many fat Capons, Hens, Pullets, and large *Indian* Pigeons. We could discern among them, as well as

' among the *Cenis*, some Tincture of the
 ' Christian Religion. For some of 'em
 ' made the Sign of the Cross, and other
 ' express'd to us by certain Marks the
 ' manner of celebrating the Mass; in-
 ' somuch, that we clearly perceiv'd it
 ' to be the Effect of some *Spanish* Missi-
 ' ons: But 'tis not to be doubted, the
 ' Increase would be much greater; if
 ' these first Seeds of Religion were sow'd
 ' among 'em by Persons, to whom they
 ' have less Aversion. And indeed our
 ' Father *Recolet*, by the means of some
 ' Images, Crosses and *Agnus Dei's*,
 ' which he distributed up and down,
 ' easily made 'em comprehend and be-
 ' lieve every thing that he taught 'em:
 ' so great is the Docility of the People
 ' of that Country.

*Sad Dis-
 asters.*

' Notwithstanding the great satisfac-
 ' tion we had among those Savages,
 ' yet we met with two sad Disasters
 ' one of which was the Desertion of Four
 ' of our *French* Men, and the other was
 ' my Brother's Sickness. As for the
 ' four Deserters, it is not known whe-
 ' ther they were excited by the Plea-
 ' santness of those Countries, to endea-
 ' vour to settle themselves among some
 ' of the Neighbouring Nations; or whe-

' ther

ther being entic'd by the alluring Baits of the Savagesses, they return'd to the *Cenis* ; or whether they retir'd to the *Nassonis*. However, 'tis certain, that as soon as they had Horses in their Possession, they did not any longer imagine themselves to be among the Savages ; so that we were not able to retain 'em, neither could we have any Tidings of 'em ever since that time.

' As for my Brother's Indisposition, it was undoubtedly the Effect of Grief occasion'd by the Desertion of some of his Attendants. He fell sick, *August* 24. in the same Year 1685. After three Months travelling, and within 200 Leagues of *St. Lewis's Bay*. His Sicknefs was follow'd almost at the same time with that of *De Moranget*, our Nephew. However, during that Affliction, we had the good Luck to find among the Savages all the Help that could have been procur'd in *Europe*, except Physitians: For we had every thing that we could wish for, particularly Veal, Mutton, Pullets, Pigeons and Ring-doves ; besides, all sorts of wholesome Herbs, as well for Pottage, as for Ptisans, Decoctions,

‘ and other Remedies necessary for sick
‘ Persons. Our two Surgeons were al-
‘ so present, and were very serviceable
‘ to us upon this occasion; nay, the
‘ very Savages themselves, as well Men
‘ as Women, gave us Meat, Fowl, and
‘ other sorts of Venison; insomuch, that
‘ at last (thanks be to the Divine Provi-
‘ dence) by the Means of our diligent
‘ Care, both our Patients recover’d their
‘ Health, after a Months Indisposition.
‘ As soon they had regain’d their
‘ Strength, my Brother being of Opini-
‘ on that he ought to improve his last
‘ Discoveries; and not being able to go
‘ any farther, without entring the Ter-
‘ ritories of the *Spaniards*, from whence
‘ according to all probability, we should
‘ never have come back; took a Resolu-
‘ tion to return to his new Colony.
‘ Therefore we set forward again in our
‘ Journey in the end of the Month of
‘ *September*, 1685. But we had this Ad-
‘ vantage, that we were now in a ca-
‘ pacity to return on Horseback, where-
‘ as we came on Foot; That which
‘ was most surprizing in our new Fur-
‘ niture is, that our Horses without be-
‘ ing shod, had so hard a Hoof, that
‘ they could go any where; and had so

‘ ten-

tender a Mouth, that they gave way to the Curb, as if they had been train'd up to it : Every one of our Company was reasonably well mounted, and our supernumerary Horses serv'd either for Change, or instead of Pack-Horses, to carry our Provision, Canoes, and other Equipage; which was no small Consolation to us.

‘ However, since the most useful things sometimes prove the most fatal, it happen'd either accidentally, or for want of Skill, that one of our Horses occasion'd the Loss of a Savage belonging to our Retinue. For on the Banks of the River *La Maligne*, on which my Brother run the hazard of being lost, a Horse prancing at the sight of a huge Crocodile, threw his Rider into the Water. He had scarce fallen, when that ravenous Beast dragged him away, and devour'd him in our sight. We were extremely troubl'd at this sad Spectacle; but in such Voyages 'tis difficult to avoid the sad Accidents, to which those who undertake 'em are sometimes liable. Therefore the safest way for a Traveller is to prepare for such Disasters, by quieting his Conscience, and by

A Crocodile drags a Man into the Water, and devours him.

‘ting himself under the Protection of
 ‘Almighty God, who is our Guide,
 ‘and constant Preserver.

‘Forasmuch as no Remedy could be
 ‘found for this Misfortune, we con-
 ‘tinu’d our Journey; and after Three
 ‘Months march, we arriv’d at St. Le-
 ‘wis’s Bay in the beginning of the Month
 ‘of *January*, 1686. As soon as we came
 ‘near our Colony, we perceiv’d that
 ‘all the Fields thereabouts were clear’d
 ‘of Trees, and well cultivated. We
 ‘there met with a great number of
 ‘Women, and Cottages, fill’d with
 ‘new Families, each Family having
 ‘its peculiar Store of Provisions, with
 ‘a Garden, and other Apartments. In
 ‘a word, every thing seem’d to pro-
 ‘mise a happy Improvement, and a nu-
 ‘merous Increase. My Brother was
 ‘receiv’d there as the Father of this little
 ‘Common-wealth, and we took great
 ‘Delight in observing these beginnings
 ‘of the Incorporation of our *French*
 ‘Men with the Savages, and the good
 ‘Use that every one made of the Ad-
 ‘vantages of this new Plantation.

‘In regard that my Brother’s Pre-
 ‘sence in that Country, was necessary,
 ‘as well for the compleating of the
 ‘Fort,

Fort, as for the modelling of this new State, we sojourn'd there about Three Months longer ; after the expiration of which time, he determin'd to return to *France* to get new Supplies at that Court, and to procure some Recruits of Tradesmen, Artificers and Labourers, as well in favour of this last Colony, as for all the others that are planted in divers parts of Northern *America*. After having taken leave of every one, he set out, accompany'd with 20 *French* Men for *Canada*, and travell'd by Land to the Country of the *Illinois*, in the end of the Month of *March*, A. D. 1686.

' Altho' this Road was the most troublesome, yet it serv'd not only to discover the Course of the Rivers, of which we only saw the Mouths, in *Many Rivers.* passing down the *Mississipi* ; but also to give us a nearer View of all the People, who inhabit along the Banks ; so that we might take frequent Opportunities to contract new Alliances with 'em. At first we cross'd the *River of Ducks*, so call'd, by reason of the numerous Flocks of wild Ducks, with which it is cover'd. Afterwards we pass'd *La Sablonniere*, or the River
' of

Quanoati-
nos, a
Nation of
the Sa-
vages.

The Fruit-
fulness of
every
Country.

of Sand, which only has for its Bed
vast Sandy Country; then the *Robe*
the Banks of which are inhabited by
certain People, who all speak in the
Throat, and at last the *Malignant R*
ver, in the Territories lying about
which are the *Quanoatinos*, a People
as formidable to the *Iroquois*, upon
account of their Valour, as for their
Cruelty. For besides that they fight
furiously, without giving Quarter
they made a Law among themselves
to cause as many to be burnt as they
can take Prisoners. As we continually
went forward, we met with the *Tar*
has the *Cappas*, and the *Palagueffons* and
declar'd Enemies of the *Spaniards*.

I shall not here give a large Description of the particular Rarities of all those Countries and Nations; but shall content my self only to declare that altho' the said Countries are very fine, generally speaking; yet in every one of 'em, its peculiar Nature and Beauty may be more especially observed. For some abound in *Indian* Corn, of which *Frumenty* is made; others in *Tonquo*, and others in *Cassave* of which the Natives make a kind of Bread.

' A

An innumerable Multitude of *Cibola's* is to be seen amongst those People who live nearest to the Sea-Coast. There are also vast numbers of Beavers amongst the *Ouadiches*, the *Akanseas*, the *Iroquois*, and in many other Quarters of *America*: And Bears are very frequent in the Northern Parts. As for Horses, they are only found among the Nations who are Neighbours to the *Spaniards*, but one may almost every where see *Orignas*, Staggs, Elks, Wolves, Ounces, large Rams, Weathers, and Sheep, that have a much finer Wool than ours.

' In traversing all these Plains we discover'd a prodigious Number of Savages, who all entertain'd us with a great deal of Courtesie, and with an entire Submission to the Laws of our Monarch. Whilst we were travelling between the *Palauessons*, and the *Nouadiches*, our Provisions fail'd, and we were oblig'd to have recourse to hunting; so that three or four of our Men, most expert in that Exercise, usually left their Companions to repair to the Woods, where they did not continue long, without bringing us good store of Venison. The advantageous

A pleasant
Country sit-
uated be-
tween two
Nations.

vantageous and most delightful
tuation of the Territories that lie
tween two Nations, who are v
affected to ours, is much to be a
mir'd, the whole Country being e
tremely fertile in *Indian* Corn, a
all kinds of Fruits,affording also gre
variety of Game, and the Pastures
bounding in Cattel of all sorts, b
more especially in Horses. All the
great Advantages induc'd my Broth
to endeavour to plant a Colony
those Parts. In order to carry o
this Design, he judg'd it exped
ent that I should be sent before to th
Illinois, as well to inform you of h
Arrival, as for some other Reason
of which I shall hereafter give you a
Account. He gave me for my Ret
nue Father *Anastasius*, *Cavelier*, m
Nephew, *M. de la Marne*, four othe
French Men, and two Slaves to serv
me as Interpreters, with two Canoo
two Pack-Horses, and necessary Pro
visions. We parted *May 15. A. D.*
1686. and travell'd by Land, as wel
for the Conveniency of our Horses, a
for the frequent Supplies we migh
get from the Savages, who shew a
much zeal for the promoting of our

In-

interest, as they are the professed Enemies of the *Iroquois* and *Spaniards*.

‘ On the first Day we took up our Quarters among the *Nouadiches*, who receiv’d us with extended Arms, and invited us to joyn with ’em, in maintaining a War against the *Spaniards*: Nouadiches, a Nation of the Savages.

They assur’d us, That there was a great deal of Gold and Silver amongst ’em; that they would willingly leave us all their Wealth, and that they would only reserve to themselves the Women and Children, to make Slaves of ’em: However, notwithstanding the little Respect we had for the *Spaniards*, we must needs have an Aversion to that Proposal; for we could not give our Consent, that the Christians should become Slaves to the *Savages*. Therefore to colour our Denial, we reply’d, That our number was not sufficient to be capable of assisting ’em in that War, but that we would go in quest of Captain *Tonti*, to whom we would not fail to represent the same Conditions they offer’d us, and that without doubt he would accept of ’em. This Answer gave Satisfaction to the *Savages*, who supply’d us with abundance of Provisions, and caus’d us to lodge in their best Cottages. ‘ The

*Divers o-
ther Peo-
ple.*

*The fruit-
fulness of
those Coun-
tries.*

‘ The next day, we pursu’d our Journey to the *Cenis* and *Nassonis*. The latter gave us Guides to conduct us to the Country of *Nabari*, and these in like manner took care to provide other Guides to convey us to the *Nassoni*. We were equally well received by all those People, and we every where found the same Dispositions to make an Alliance with us, and to live under the Protection of our Prince. The Land thereabouts are fruitful, and the Climate very proper for the planting of Vineyards; for Vines often spring up there spontaneously; so that one may see clusters of Grapes growing among the Elms, and flourishing under the shadow of their Leaves. One cannot travel three Leagues without meeting with some River or Brook. There are also Herds of Beavers: All the People are generally addicted to the Adoration of the Sun, and have no other Cloaths than a certain Contexture of Rushes, or of very fine Mats, which are set out with Paintings of several Colours, representing the Sun, Birds, Flowers, &c. For matter of Arms they are altogether unknown to ’em except the Bow and Arrow; insomuch

‘ that

that the discharge of a Fusée or Pistol would appear to them, as it were a Clap of Thunder, preceded by its Lightning.

‘ Afterwards we pass’d from the Territories of the *Naausi* to those of the *Cadodaches*, where we were entertained after a very generous manner, so that our Reception might well be styl’d a splendid Triumph. For the principal Elders of the Nation came forth to meet us, and conducted us thro’ two Ranks of their armed Youth into very neat Cottages. The rest of our Entertainment was as pleasant and diverting, as the manner of managing it was Savage and Fantastical; at first, certain tawny Women, but well shap’d, and half naked, were very officious in washing our Feet in Wooden Troughs, and then we were serv’d with different Messes, very well dress’d: For besides boil’d Meat, Broth and Venison, the ordinary Mess among those People; they presented us with a large Dish of Roasted Turkeys, Geese, Ducks, and Ring-doves, not to forget another Dish of broil’d Pigeons. But we were disturb’d in the midst of our Jollity, by a very sad Accident

Cadodaches, their Reception of the French

M. de la
Marne
washing
himself in
a River
is drown'd.

‘ Accident, which happen’d to *M. de la*
‘ *Marne*, one of our Company: For as
‘ much as the Heat of the Weather
‘ was excessive, occasion’d as well by
‘ the Climate, as the Season of the Year
‘ that unfortunate Gentleman had
‘ mind to wash himself in a River that
‘ runs thro’ the Village. To which pur-
‘ pose, having chosen a shady place for
‘ greater Convenience, he threw him-
‘ self into the Water, and unhappily
‘ fell into an Abyss, where he was
‘ swallow’d up in a Trice; some time
‘ after, perceiving that he did not re-
‘ turn, we were desirous to go to the
‘ Place, where he retir’d; but he was
‘ not to be found, and we began to su-
‘ spect that perhaps he might be de-
‘ vour’d by some Crocodile: However
‘ the Inhabitants having seen the Place,
‘ where he threw himself in, no longer
‘ doubted that he was lost in that Gulph
‘ And indeed, after having made a search
‘ at the very instant, he was taken up
‘ dead, and quite disfigur’d.
‘ I cannot sufficiently express how
‘ much we were transported with Grief
‘ at the sight of so sad a Spectacle. The
‘ Wife of the chief Governour came her-
‘ self to bury him; and after having per-
‘ form’d

form'd the Funeral Obsequies, decently Interring his Body, we set up a Cross over his Tomb: In the mean while, the Savages, who were Witnesses of our Ceremonies, joyn'd their Tears with ours, and endeavour'd to comfort us, by doing us all the good Offices that lay in their Power.

' The next day we met with the *Narchoas* and the *Onadiches* on the Banks of the same River, and about five Leagues lower we had a sight of the *Cabinvio's* and *Mentons*. These People not knowing what our Arms were, took us for the Masters of Thunder, and were much afraid of us at the same time. The Beavers are very numerous in their Country, and more especially in the Territory of the *Ozothoa's*, where they are so common, that the Inhabitants are oblig'd to burn their Skins. These People provided Guides to conduct us to the *Akanceas*, on whose Jurisdiction they depend. There we began to know our selves; for we saw a Cross erected, on the middle of which the King's Arms were fixt, and some few Paces farther we met with a fine House, built after the *French* Fashion,

N

' and

* A sort
of Boat.

‘ and inhabited by a certain Person,
‘ nam’d *Consture*, who receiv’d us very
‘ kindly, and gave us to understand
‘ that that Seat, with all its Depend-
‘ cies, was under your Jurisdiction.
‘ After having rested there two Days,
‘ we went to the Villages of the *Tori-*
‘ *mans*, *Doginga’s* and *Cappa’s*, to get up
‘ to the River *Mississipi*. These last Peo-
‘ ple accommodated us with a * *Piroque*
‘ for two Horses that we gave ‘em in
‘ Exchange.

‘ Thus being wearied with our Tra-
‘ vels by Land, I determin’d to pass on
‘ the *Mississipi* again, to the River of the
‘ *Illinois*, and Father *Anastasi* was very
‘ glad that he had an Opportunity to go
‘ on board the same Canoo with me.
‘ *M. Cavelier*, my Nephew, took five
‘ other *French* Men to accompany him,
‘ and contenting himself with one Sa-
‘ vage, left me another, to serve for
‘ an Interpreter and Rower. Having
‘ met at our Place of *Rendez-vous*, in
‘ the Country of the *Miamis*, we parted
‘ so that he travell’d over the Plains,
‘ and I embark’d on the River *Mississipi*,
‘ August 15. A. D. 1686.

‘ It were needless to give a particular
‘ Account of all the Nations that we
met,

met, and therefore I shall only make mention of those whom we did not discover in our Descent. The *Chicas-Chicacha's* were the first that we found at the Distance of 30 Leagues from the *Akanceas*: They are a very docil, industrious, valiant and warlike People, and sufficiently numerous to raise an Army of 2000. Men upon all occasions. We continu'd our Course from thence to the *Onabaches*, within ten Leagues of their River, and saw that of the *Massourites* and *Ozages*, which is no less rapid and deep than the *Mississipi*. We pass'd on it during two Days, as well with a Design to discover the Nations inhabiting on its Banks, as to get some fresh Provisions, and in our Passage we descry'd the Villages of the *Panivacha's*, *Pera's*, *Panaloga's*, *Matotantes*, and *Ozages*, all gallant, numerous, and good-natur'd People, who among the several Messes and varieties of Fruits, with which they treated us, caus'd us to eat some Grapes of an admirable taste. 'On the third Day, after having row'd on that River, we endeavour'd to recover the *Mississipi*; on which, being embark'd in a Canoo, we steer'd

N 2 ' our

' our Course on it for some Days, even
 ' as far as the River of the *Illinois*; and
 ' after Thirty Days Navigation we ar
 ' riv'd at the Foot of *Crevecœur* Fort,
 ' from whence we return'd to that of
 ' *St. Lewis*. *Indeed we were then so un-*
fortunate, as not to meet with you there,
(which was no small trouble to us); but
at present we have the Consolation to see
you in good Health.

M. *Cavelier* having thus concluded
 his Relation, we renew'd our Embrac-
 ces, but I continu'd for some time
 speechless, without being able to make
 any Application to him; for, to say the
 Truth, I did not well know my self,
 nor in what Condition I was at that
 time. On the one side, the loss of our
 Fleet, and of the greatest part of the
French Mariners, was a very great
 Mortification to me; and on the other
 side, the Assurance that was given me
 of *M. de la Salle's* Welfare, and of the
 Success of so many fine Discoveries
 oblig'd me to turn my Sorrow into
 Joy. I was also extremely surpriz'd at
 the strangeness of his Adventures; but
 at the same time, the Absence of a Per-
 son, for whom I had so particular a
 Respect, and whose Return I had so
 long

long expected with the utmost Impatience ; besides, the Regret upon reflecting, that I was not an Eye-witness, and a Companion of his Travels, pierc'd my Heart with so sensible a Grief, that I was not by any means able to surmount it. Neither could I any longer contain my self, or forbear easing my Mind a little, by uttering these mournful Expostulations. ' Alas! (said I to ' *M. Cavelier*) how could it so fall out, ' that *M. de La Salle*, my Patron, and ' my only Support, should spend Two ' Years in returning to *America*, and ' that during that whole Term, I should ' not be only depriv'd of the Pleasure ' of seeing him, but also should not ' find Means to hear any Tidings of ' him? Or how is it possible that I should ' not be permitted to embrace him? I ' must freely declare to you, that notwithstanding the Joy which your Presence affords me, I find my self seiz'd in beholding you, with a more Intense Grief, since the more I look upon you, I am so much the more troubled that I have not a sight of him. ' Heavens! (continu'd I) has *M. de la Salle* resided in *America* Two Years, ' and cannot I as yet lay hold of some

'portunity to meet him, or to speak
 'with him? Alas! 'tis not my Fault
 'for as soon as I could judge, that he
 'had touch'd at any of the Coasts of
 'the Gulph of *Mexico*, I made a descent
 'on those Countries; I search'd about
 'all the Capes and Shoars of that Sea
 'as well on the side of *Malcolina*, as on
 'that of *Mexico*; I visited all the Peo-
 'ple, who inhabit those Coasts, viz. The
 'Pichenos, Ozembogus, Tangibaos, Osto-
 'noos, Mansoleas, and Mousa's, and en-
 'quir'd of them after *M. de la Salle*, but
 'none could give me any manner of
 'Account concerning him. Hence
 'then you may take some estimate of
 'my excessive Trouble and Sorrow.

'How was it possible (reply'd *M. Ca-*
 'velier) for you to meet us? You went
 'to seek for us at the Mouth of the Ri-
 'ver *Mississipi*, and on the adjacent
 'Coasts; whereas we only landed 25
 'Leagues above it: You follow'd the
 'Course of that River, both in your De-
 'scent, and at your Return; but we al-
 'ways kept at a distance from thence,
 'steering to the South-east, and along
 'the Gulph of *Mexico*. By what means
 'could you expect to meet with us, in
 'following so contrary Courses? At

least

least (said I to him) he ought to have sent some Messenger, to give me notice of his Return. 'Tis true indeed, (said he) and he would certainly have done it, if it had lain in his Power: But who of those new Comers could find out the Roads that lay cross the Territories of so many *Barbarians*, or would be willing to make such an Attempt at so great a distance? Or could he spare me, or either of his two Nephews for that purpose? Besides, the Hopes he had of seeing you ere long in Person, made him continually defer to inform you of his Arrival. It must be confess'd (said I then) there is no Remedy for what is past; that which revives my Spirits is, to hear, that he is in good Health, and whereabouts he is: It will not be long (by the help of God) ere we shall go again to find him out. In the mean while (continu'd I) I call to mind, that you have somewhat else more particular to communicate to me from him, and therefore I would entreat you to declare it to me, that I may make due Preparation, even as soon as it's possible, for my intended Voyage.

' Take it thus (reply'd *M. Cavalier*)
 ' my Brother being impatient to pro-
 ' cure the necessary Supplies, for the
 ' Establishment and Maintenance of
 ' his new Colony, and to cause two
 ' Ports and two Havens to be built, *viz.*
 ' One on St. *Lewis's* Bay, and the other
 ' at the Mouth of the River *Mississipi*, the
 ' bottom and sides of which he has very
 ' accurately observ'd, deputed me for
 ' this Employment, only with a Design
 ' that I should incontinently return to
 ' *France*, as well to inform the Court of
 ' his last Settlement, and of his great
 ' Discoveries, as to prepare their Minds,
 ' and to induce 'em to grant what is
 ' requisite upon so emergent an occasi-
 ' on. For that very Reason he also sent
 ' me to *Quebec*, and gave me a particu-
 ' lar Charge to wait upon you, in or-
 ' der to borrow some Money, upon
 ' the Receipt of which I will give you
 ' an Acquittance, and my Brother will
 ' place it to Account.

After this Discourse he presented me
 with a Letter, which was well seal'd
 with *M. de La Salle's* Seal. As for the
 Writing, I did not examine it; and be-
 sides, the Characters us'd by those two
 Gentlemen, who wrote almost the same
 Hand,

Hand, are so like, that 'twould be difficult to find out the difference. However, I read that Letter with extreme Delight; in which, the same Request was contain'd, with Protestations of an entire Trust, and of a most sincere Friendship. The Joy with which I was transported, to hear Tidings of so intimate a Friend; the Candour of the Person who deliver'd the Letter to me; and the Devotion I had made of every thing that I possess'd, to the disposal of a Person, to whom I thought my self infinitely indebted; did not suffer me to take the matter into Consideration. I immediately ask'd *M. Cavelier* how much Money he desir'd? Whereupon he told me, that he believ'd his Brother had mention'd the Sum of 7000 Livres. *It is true indeed* (said I) *but if you have occasion for more, you need only demand it of me, since all that I have is at your Service.* He thank'd me heartily, and told me, that in case he should stand in need of somewhat more, he might procure it in *France*. Therefore I paid him the Sum of Money agreed upon, at that very Instant, and he insisted to give me his Receipt, according to the Order, which (as he said) he had from his Brother;

Brother. I readily consented, and forasmuch as he protested to me, that he was determin'd to set out on his Journey the next day, I gave some Refreshment to his Attendants, and recruited his Provisions. We spent the Remainder of the Day as pleasantly as we could, and very early the next Morning he took leave of me, departing with a *Franciscan Recolet*, and a Slave, with a design to pass into the Country of the *Miamis*.

I was also preparing to pass on the River the next day, and every thing was dispos'd for my Departure. Having spent the rest of the Day, with much uneasiness, the next Morning was putting my small Cargo on board when about Nine a Clock I espy'd coming towards me the *Sieur Constance* my Lieutenant, in the Country of the *Akanceas*, where both the *Caveliers* viz. the Uncle and the Nephew refresh'd themselves for some time: Indeed at first I was very glad to see him, but in a moment after he threw me into a terrible Consternation: I immediately enquir'd of him, where he left *M. de La Salle*? *M. de La Salle* (said he) *do not you know that he is dead?* How! (cry'd I) *is M. de La Salle dead?*

*The Death
of M. de
La Salle.*

'Tis

*'Tis too true (reply'd he) he is certainly
dead; for he was assassinated by his own
Party, in the Territories situated between
the Palaqueffons and the Nouadiches.
Hey! what d'ye say? (said I) is it
possible? Why! M. Cavelier his own
Brother but now took Leave of me,
and was so far from telling me any
thing of this matter, that he gave me
a Letter under his Hand, and did not
seem to shew the least mark of Grief
or Concern. Sir (said he) I had the
information from his own Mouth; his
Tears, and those of his Nephew were too
evident a proof of the Truth of what they
asserted; and I am very sorry that I should
be the first that came to bring you so bad
News. I was extremely surpriz'd at
his Answer, and quite overwhelm'd
with Grief, insomuch, that for a while
I was not able to speak nor weep; nei-
ther did I know how to dispose of my-
self: However, some Moments after
I rose up, and spoke to this Effect;
M. de La Salle, my only Protector, is
dead (as you say) and murder'd too by
his Attendants! O Heavens! can this be?
But may I know who are those Miscreants
that durst imbrue their Hands in the
Blood of so excellent a Patron? They are
two*

*The Authors of
his Death.*

two Russians (reply'd *M. Cousture*) nam'd *Dan and Lancelot*. *Ah! wicked Wretches* (said I) by what Motive, or rather by what Demon were they excited to commit so execrable a Fact? Then I entreated him to tell me all that he knew concerning that Matter. 'Alas! (said he) not to trespass too long on your Patience, I shall proceed to give you an Account of every particular Circumstance of his Death, as it was related to me.

'*M. de La Salle* being recover'd of a very dangerous Disease, repair'd to his last Colony at Fort St. Lewis and departed from thence, *March 2 A. D. 1686*. with a Design to visit his old Plantations, accompany'd with about 30 Persons; among whom were his Brother, his two Nephews, the two *Lantelots* Brothers, *Dan*, a Savage, nam'd *Choouanon*; two English Free-Booters; and one *Hiens*, German by Nation.

'On the first Day of their March *M. de La Salle* perceiving that the younger *Lancelot*, being still weak after his Recovery from a violent Fit of Sicknefs, was not able to follow the rest of the Company, determin'd to send

send him back to the Bay; neither could he be prevail'd upon by any means to alter his Mind, notwithstanding the earnest Entreaties made by his Brother, that they might not be parted; insomuch, that young *Lancelot* was at last oblig'd to return to the place appointed. These Proceedings which appear'd to be Arbitrary, and Imperious, were hard to be digested by a Man of Courage. In the mean while it unfortunately happen'd, that this young Man was met on the Road by certain Savages, who cut his Throat, and the News was brought the same Day to his elder Brother, who could not restrain the Excess of his Grief. He immediately laid the Blame on *M. de La Salle*, and from that very moment, being transported with Rage and Passion, he swore his Destruction. After having given himself up for some time to Complaints and Lamentations, he suddenly stifled his Indignation, designing to let it break forth again with greater Vehemency upon some favourable Opportunity. Therefore he follow'd the rest of the Company; but after Two Months march, their

The younger Lancelot kill'd by the Savages.

'Pro-

' Provisions failing, between the Terri-
 ' tories of the *Palaqueffons* and the *Noa-*
 ' *diches*; *Dan* and *Lantelot* made an
 ' Agreement to go a hunting in the
 ' Woods, and solicited the *Sieur de*
 ' *Moranget*, to accompany 'em. The
 ' unfortunate Gentleman, without mi-
 ' strusting any thing, condescended by
 ' way of Complaisance, to grant their
 ' Request. But the two Russians, who
 ' being excited as well by Envy, upon
 ' Account of his singular Merits, as by
 ' the implacable Hatred that they bore
 ' his Uncle, had long ago form'd a
 ' Design upon his Life; having now
 ' insensibly drawn him aside, reek'd
 ' their Malice upon him, to which pur-
 ' pose they gave him a blow on the
 ' Head with a Hatchet, of which he
 ' died two Hours after, like a good
 ' Christian, heartily forgiving his Ene-
 ' mies; of whose Revenge this was the
 ' first Effort.

De Mo-
 ranget
 knockt on
 the Head
 with a
 Hatchet.

' The Day being ended, and *M. de*
 ' *La Salle* not seeing his Nephew return,
 ' nor his Companions, spent the Night
 ' in a strange Perplexity: The next day
 ' he went himself to the Place, where
 ' he judg'd that they might have been,
 ' and was soon follow'd by Father *A-*
 ' *nastasius*,

Anastasi, his Brother and his Lacquey, neither was much time spent, ere he found the Person whom he sought for. For being arriv'd in a Meadow, situated on the side of the River *Mississipi*, he espy'd *Lantelot's* Footman thro the Grass, which was very high, and instantly ask'd him what was become of *De Moranget* his Nephew? The Villain impudently answer'd that he might go look him on the Bank; and indeed the Body of that unfortunate young Gentleman lay extended there, and two Vulturs were fluttering over it, to get their Prey. In the mean while those two perfidious Wretches lay hid in the Grass, with their Fuses ready cockt; and as *M. de la Salle* was drawing near the Footman, to chastise him, he was shot in the Head with three Balls, which *Lantelot* had discharg'd against him; whereupon he fell to the Ground with his Face all over bloody. Father *Anastasi* and his Brother having heard the Report of the Gun, immediately ran to him, and found him dying, but not as yet altogether destitute of Sense and Knowledge. Neither did their Grief hinder 'em from assisting
him

' him at his last Gasp, at least with re-
 ' spect to the Salvation of his Soul :
 ' For he had Time and Strength suffi-
 ' cient to make his Confession, and to
 ' offer up himself to God, as it were a
 ' solemn Sacrifice. This was the last
 ' Effect of their Rage, and the Tragical
 ' end of our Illustrious Hero, and of
 ' your good Friend.

M. de la
 Salle's
 Death
 much la-
 mented

These last Words struck me to the
 ' very Heart, insomuch, that I had no
 ' Strength left to complain : I continu'd
 ' dumb and unmoveable for some time;
 ' but at last the violence of my Grief,
 ' causing me to come out of my Con-
 ' sternation by the means of a suddain
 ' Flood of Tears: ' O Heavens ! (said I)
 ' shall I never see *M. de la Salle* again?
 ' Alas ! what Hope, what Help is
 ' there now left me ? What will be-
 ' come of all those blooming Families,
 ' of which he was the common Father,
 ' the main Support, and the only Con-
 ' solation ? What a desperate Condition
 ' are they in ? How many brave Under-
 ' takings are now spoil'd, and how
 ' many Persons are ruin'd by the Loss
 ' of one single Man ? Alas ! is it possi-
 ' ble that a Person so venerable for his
 ' Virtue ; and so useful to *France*, upon
 ' Account

Account of his great Discoveries; or that a Man so universally respected, and beloved even by the most barbarous People, should be massacred by his own Followers? Is there any Punishment severe enough for these Murderers; I say, for those wretched Cai-tifs? But where shall we find 'em? Oh! that I could discover 'em, and bring 'em to condign Punishment. Their Business is already done (then said *Couture*) those Villains are already punish'd, if their Death may be thought sufficient to expiate their Guilt. Alas what manner (said I) did the Earth open to swallow 'em up; or did Heaven strike 'em dead with Thunder? No, Sir, (reply'd he) their Comerades did 'em Justice. These profligate Wretches, after they had perpetrated that horrid Fact, determin'd in like manner to destroy all the rest, that they might not leave any Witnesses of their Crime; but the two *English* Men feigning to espouse their Interest, and to justify their wicked Action, obtain'd a Pardon for the Brother, and the Nephew that surviv'd their Kinsman, with Leave to bury the two dead Bodies.

O

Whilst

Whilst these two afflicted Relations, and the good Monk were employ'd in performing their last Devoirs to the Deceased, those perfidious Villains ran to seize on the rest of *M. de La Salle's* Effects; the whole Cargo consisting in Ten Horses, some pieces of Linnen-Cloth and Merchandizes, to the value of about 2000 Crowns. As soon as they had taken Possession of all the Goods, the rest of the Company was oblig'd to make a Vertue of Necessity and to joyn with 'em. The Brother and the Nephew, who had redeem'd their Life by silence, and by a voluntary Resignation of every thing, were likewise forc'd to follow the Torrent. Afterwards they arriv'd at the Village of the *Nouadiches*, among whom dwell certain *French* Men, who had deserted *M. de La Salle* in his Life-time. These People perceiving the Arrival of this new Company, very well arm'd, and moderately accoutred, were no less overjoy'd to see 'em, than the *French* were entertain'd 'em very honourably; and at the first Salute invited 'em to be their Companions in their Expedition against the *Quoanantino's*. It being requisite to suit themselves to the Time; and to

com

comply with the present Exigency of Affairs, they all enter'd into that Association, except the two *Caveliers*, and the Father *Recolet*.

'In the mean while *Lantelot* and *Dan*, who set up for Commanders in chief of the Company, took up their Lodging apart; absolutely dispos'd of all the Effects of *M. de La Salle*, at their Pleasure; diverted themselves at his Cost; and made good Cheer. But the departure of the Savages was daily expected. The *English* Man and the *German*, that had no share in the Spoils of the Deceased, and who nevertheless stood in great need of necessary Accoutrements, went well arm'd to meet their pretended Commanders in their Tent, and entreated 'em to take Care that they might be supply'd with some Linnen for their new Expedition. *Lantelot* treated 'em rudely; the *English* Man re-iterated his Demands; and the former made him a second Denial, with much more Re-tractoriness than before. Whereupon the *English* Man upbraiding him, said, *Thou art a vile Traytor; thou hast kill'd by Master and mine*; and at that very instant, drawing a Pistol from his

Lantelot and Dan assassinated by an English Man and a German

O 2 Girdle,

' Girdle, he shot three Balls into his
 ' Reins, and laid him sprawling on
 ' the Ground. *Dan* immediately ran
 ' to his Fufee, but the *German* soon
 ' ftopt his Career, broke his Head, and
 ' kill'd him outright. Some of the
 ' Company hearing the Noife, ran
 ' towards 'em forthwith, and *Father*
 ' *Anaftafius* found one ftone-dead, and
 ' the other dying: He confefs'd *Lante*
 ' *lot*, who was *M de La Salle's* Mur
 ' derer, and had fcarce given him Ab
 ' folution, when a certain *French* Man
 ' burnt his Hair with a Piftol-Shot
 ' without Ball; infomuch, that the
 ' Fire instantly taking hold of his Shirt
 ' which was very greafie, the miferable
 ' Wretch expir'd amidft the Flames.
 Thus thofe wicked Murderers perifh'
 according to their Deferts, whose Crime
 was of too deep a Dye, to remain long
 unpunifh'd, and 'tis not to be doubted
 that thofe who fhall read this Narrative
 will conceive a juft Indignation againft
 the like bloody Affaffins.

' Afterwards the *Englifh* Man and
 ' the *German* made themfelves Mafters
 ' of their Spoils, and offer'd 'em all to
 ' the difcretion of the two *M. Cavaliers*
 ' who only took as much as was neceffary
 ' far

sary for their Journey ; and having left 'em the rest, came to me in the Country of the *Akanceas*. They were the Uncle and the Nephew, accompany'd with M. *de la Marne*, and M. *Joustel*, and a *Chaouanon* Savage, and I had all that I have related from their own Mouth : I was also an Eye-witness of their Lamentations and Tears; they rested Two Days in your House, and on the third following they set out for the *Illinois*. Thus, Sir, I have given you a particular Account of what you desir'd, according to the best of my Knowledge.

'I only convers'd (said I then) with the Uncle and the Father *Recolet*, but as for the Nephew, M. *Joustel* and the *Chaouanon*, I had no sight of 'em. As for M. *de la Marne*, I remember that M. *Cavelier* told me, that he was drown'd; nevertheless, I cannot recover my self from my Surprise, when I reflect on the Constancy and Tranquillity of Mind, with which he related to me the particular Circumstances of his whole Voyage, and all his Adventures. 'Tis a common Saying, that deep Sorrow is dumb, and I dare not call in question the Sincerity of his;

' but I am certain, that he has made no
 ' Scruple to cross the Proverb. He had
 some occasion to use Dissimulation (re-
 ply'd *Constance*) ' He was willing some-
 ' what to allay his Grief, by the telling
 ' of long Stories; and besides, he had
 ' some By-ends, and some particular
 ' Reasons for such a Deportment at that
 ' time.

' I very well comprehend your mean-
 ' ing (said I) he was desirous to bor-
 ' row Money of me, and he was afraid,
 ' lest I should refuse to lend him any, if
 ' he inform'd me of his Brother's Death.
 ' But alas! I was too much indebted to
 ' his Name and Family, to deny him any
 ' thing. Would to God I had nothing
 ' left in the World, and had not lost my
 ' honoured Protector, my dear Patron,
 ' and my most faithful Friend! But alas!
 ' all our Lamentations are to no purpose,
 ' and since we cannot repair so great a
 ' Loss, let us at least arm our selves with
 ' Patience; let us also endeavour to bring
 ' to Perfection what he has so happily
 ' begun.

At that very instant I encourag'd my
 self in my Resolution to make another
 Voyage, with a Design not only to
 carry Relief to those poor *French Men*,
 who

who were abandon'd on the Sea-shoar, but also to undertake some new Enterprize, that might afford me some Consolation for the Loss I had sustain'd. To that purpose I made Preparations for a new Descent to the Seas, and to visit all those Nations that were lately discover'd by *M. de La Salle*, and mention'd to me by his Brother.

In the mean while I receiv'd a Letter from the Marquis *D'Enonville*, our Governour; the Purport of which was to inform me, That we were engag'd in a War against the *Spaniards*, and by which he gave me free Liberty to make what Attempts I could upon 'em. *War with the Spaniards.* This Letter, in Conjunction with what *M. Cavelier* had told me concerning those Nations, who were ready to make War with 'em, animated me so much the more to hasten my Journey. Therefore I set out *Decemb. 3. A. D. 1687.* accompany'd with five *French Men*, four *Chaouanous*, and some other Savages, and left my Cousin *De Liette*, Commander of Fort *St. Lewis*. My first Journey ended in the Village of the *Istinois*, and I found 'em lately come back from an Expedition against di-

vers Neighbouring People, from whom they carry'd away 130 Prisoners.

From thence I pass'd to the *Cappa's*, who gave me very good Entertainment, and some time after the *Toginga's* and *Torimans* receiv'd me with thelike Demonstration of Friendship and Respect. Then the Course of my Journey brought me to the *Ossotoues*, where I built an House for the Convenience of Traffick. There I spent five or six Days, during which, I made new Purchases, and encreas'd my Store of Provisions. I departed from my House in the Month of *February*, 1688. and after some Days travelling I got up again to the great Village of *Taensas*. As we were pursuing that Journey, one of my *Chaouanous* being attack'd by three *Chachouma's*, kill'd one of them, and himself receiv'd a slight Wound on the Pap, with the glancing of an Arrow. But a far greater Disaster befel us during that Journey. For two *French* Men of my Company stragling in the Woods to hunt, were assaulted by a Party of *Naches*, and unfortunately kill'd. We were so much the more sensible of this Indignity, in regard that 'twas impossible for us to revenge it, not being
able

able to come up with those Savages.

Upon our Arrival among the *Taen-* A quarrel
between
the *Taen-*
sa's and
the *Nachi-*
toches a-
bout Salt.
fas, the principal Elders of that Na-
tion inform'd me of the Contest they
had with the *Nachitoches*, about Salt,
of which, the latter would not suf-
fer 'em to have any share, and entreat-
ed me to be Mediatour for the making
up of their Differences. I readily ac-
cepted of the Office; so that Thirty
Taensfas having joyn'd our Company,
we arriv'd after Eight Days march, at
the Village of the *Nachitoches*. This Nati-
on constitutes only one State with two
others, viz. the *Ouasita's* and the *Capi-*
chis. The chief Commanders of these
three sorts of People being met toge-
ther, they caused me to sit down in
the middle of 'em; but the Thirty
Taensa's, before they took their place,
desir'd Leave to go to the Temple, to
implore the Assistance of their God,
for the obtaining a firm Peace. (Here
'tis observable by the way, that the
Sun is the Deity which is most com-
monly ador'd among all those People.)
Therefore these *Taensa's* were actually
conducted to the Temple; and after
having said their Prayers, were brought
back

back to the Assembly, where they call'd their God to witness the Sincerity of their Intentions, as to the matter of Peace; made their Presents to the three several Nations; and nominated me for Guarantee of their Treaty. Whereupon I promoted their Interest as far as it lay in my Power, making the best of their Claim, and at last brought Matters to a good Accommodation insomuch, that the *Nachitoches* promis'd to supply 'em with Salt, in exchange for their Skins and Grains. Upon the breaking up of the Convention, they took a reciprocal Oath to maintain Peace and an Amicable Correspondence one with another, and danc'd the *Calumet*, according to the usual Custom of the *Americans*. Afterwards I took my leave of both those Nations.

The *Nachitoches* provided Five Guides to conduct me to the Village of the *Tataches*, and to go thither; I was oblig'd to pass on the River *Onoroyste* about 30 Leagues. During our Course we found fifteen Cottages of the *Naches* and took up our Lodging amongst 'em that Night, continually standing upon our Guard. The next day, having met with Twelve of 'em apart, we did not

spare

pare 'em, but reveng'd the Death of our *French* Men, whom they had barbarously assassinated. After having travell'd for some Days, we arriv'd in the Territories of the *Tataches*, who are united to two other Nations, that make three Villages together, viz. the *Tataches*, the *Onodo's*, and the *Choyo's*. As soon as they had notice of our Arrival, they came three Leagues to meet us, and brought us good Provisions for our Refreshment. Afterwards we went out of the Champion Country to their Village, and the chief Elders entertain'd us at several Feasts. Then I made 'em some Presents, and desir'd that I might have Guides to conduct me to the *Quodadiquio's*. They made a great deal of difficulty to grant me any, by reason that three Days ago they massacred three of their Ambassadors; nevertheless, by the means of Entreaties and Protestations to defend 'em, they were at last prevail'd upon to furnish us with five.

When we drew near the three Villages, we discern'd the Tracts of Horses and Men on the Road, and indeed in the Morning divers Horsemen appear'd, and offer'd to convey us thither. I
was

*A remark-
able Ad-
venture.*

was attended with 20. Fusileers, well arm'd, and so in a Condition to keep those Savages in awe. I had no sooner enter'd the Village, but a certain Woman, who held the first Rank in that Country, made an Address to me, and importun'd me to revenge her Husband's Death, who was kill'd by the *Yataches*. A little while after another Woman came to me, to make the same Complaint, and they apparently were the Wives of those Ambassadors, whom the *Yataches* had assassinated not long before. All the People seem'd to be concern'd at their Death; and forasmuch as they were very solicitous about that Affair, I made a Promise both to the Widows, and to the People, to take Vengeance for the Murder of their Husbands and Ambassadors. Then they conducted me to their Temple wash'd my Face with Water, before they permitted me to enter; and after having pray'd to God for the space of one quarter of an Hour, they led me back into the Cottage of one of those Women, where I was magnificently entertain'd. There I was inform'd that the Seven *French* Men, who were separated from *Cavelier*, after the Death

of *M. de la Salle*, were still living among the *Nonadiches*. I was extremely delighted with this piece of News, and hop'd to put an end to my Evils, if I could once find means to meet 'em again. Therefore having pass'd the rest of the Day among the *Quododiquio's*, I entreated 'em to furnish me with Guides, and assur'd 'em, That at my Return I would either oblige the *Tataches* to give 'em Satisfaction, or I would require Blood for Blood at their Hands.

The *Quododiquio's* are united to two People united together. other Nations, viz. the *Nappitoche's* and the *Nassonis*, whose Territories are situated on the red River. These three Nations speak the same Language, yet their Assemblies are not conven'd by Villages, but by Habitations, very remote one from another. Their Countries are very fine, affording abundance of Game, and variety of Fish; but there are very few Oxen. These People maintain cruel Wars against their Neighbours; insomuch, that their Villages are not very populous. They all have very fine Horses, which they call *Cavallio's*. The Men and Women have their Faces prick'd, and even all the other Parts of their Bodies: And indeed the Fan-

*The Red
River.*

Fantastical Humours of Men is altogether unaccountable, since that which is look'd upon as Deformity in one Country, passes for Beauty in another. Their River is call'd the *Red*, because it actually throws up abundance of Sand, which renders it as red as Blood.

I set out from thence *April 6. A. D. 1690.* with two Slaves, who were my Guides, for the Country of the *Nouadiches*. As we were travelling on the Road, we met with certain Savages of that Nation a hunting, who assur'd us, that they had left our *French Men* at home, which was very joyful News to me, but at the same time I had the Misfortune to lose a young *French Man* of my Retinue: He found means to return three Days after, but without his Snap-sack, where I had put the best part of my Provisions, which created me a great deal of trouble. However, not thinking fit to take any notice of his Neglect, we took up our Quarters that Night within half a League of the Village of the *Nouadiches*, where the principal Elders came forth to meet us. I instantly enquir'd of 'em after our *French Men*, and they answer'd, that they were in good Health; but forasmuch

much as they were not to be seen, I could promise my self no Good by it. The next day, being arriv'd at their Village, and none of 'em appearing, my Suspicion was still increas'd. The chief Governors of the Nation did not fail to offer me the *Calumet*; but I refus'd to accept of any thing at their Hands, till they had produc'd the *French Men*. When they perceiv'd that I persisted in my Resolution, they confess'd that our *French Men* having accompany'd 'em in the War against the *Spaniards*, were surrounded by the Horse; that three of 'em were kill'd; and that the other four retiring to the *Quoanantino's*, they never heard any Tidings of 'em since that time. I reply'd, That certainly they themselves had murder'd 'em; they deny'd it stiffly, and forasmuch as I incessantly accus'd 'em, their Wives fell a weeping, and made me understand by their Tears, that the Information concerning their Death was too true.

The *Nonadiches* us'd their utmost Efforts to clear themselves, and offer'd me the *Calumet* a second time; I told 'em that I would not accept of it, till I were thoroughly convinc'd of their Innocence

nocence as to that Point, and that nevertheless if I could be serviceable to 'em in any thing, they should find my Fidelity inviolable. The chief Commander answer'd my kind Expressions, with a Present of Ten fine Horses, well harness'd, and I gave him seven Hatchets, with a Set of Glasses.

We left their Country *May* 29. and advanc'd within a Days Journey of the *Palaqueffons*, where we were inform'd that the last Colony establish'd by *M. de la Salle*, on the Coast of the Gulph of *Mexico*, not having been able to maintain it self in a perfect Union, was quite dispers'd ; that some were intermixed with the Savages, and that others found Means to get to the *French* Plantations in other Places. Therefore not judging it expedient to seek for 'em where they were no longer to be found, I took a Resolution to return the same way I came. In the mean while I endeavour'd to pass to the Village of *Coroas*, but a prodigious Inundation happening, by reason of the extraordinary Rains, which continu'd for Three Days successively, we were involv'd in the greatest Streight imaginable: For the Water every where

rose

rose up to the middle Leg at least; in-
 tomuch, that we were forc'd to sleep,
 and to make Fires on thick Trees, and we
 thought our selves happy, in being then
 provided with Cassave, Beef and Veni-
 son: We continu'd three or four Days
 in this forlorn Condition, but as good
 Luck would have it, we discover'd a
 small Island, which the Waters had not
 yet overflow'd, and we retir'd thi-
 ther for a Day and a Night: Our Hor-
 ses were somewhat recruited there, and
 the Ground being suddenly dry'd by the
 excessive Heat of the Season, and of the
 Climate, we got up in a Days Journey
 to the Village of *Ceroas*. I cannot suf-
 ficiently express the noble Entertain-
 ment we met with among those People,
 who employ'd several Persons every
 day in fishing and hunting, on purpose
 to treat us, and supply'd us with abun-
 dance of Pullets, Geese, Pigeons and
 Turkeys. But that which redoubled
 my Joy is, that two of those *French*
Men, whom I sought for among the
Nonadiches, were luckily found here;
 and that I had so favourable an Oppor-
 tunity to re-unite 'em to my Com-
 pany.

*Coroas, a
 Savage
 People.*

I took my leave of the *Coroas*, July 20th. and arriv'd on the 31th. in the Territories of the *Akancea's*, where I was seiz'd with a Fever, which oblig'd me to stay there till August 15. After I had a little recover'd my Strength, I set forward again in my Journey to the Country of the *Illinois*, and arriv'd there in the Month of September. Thus the Treaty of Peace concluded between the *Taensa's* and the *Nachitoches*; the pleasure of being most kindly entertain'd by all the Savage People; and the Satisfaction of bringing back two *French Men*, whom I had given over for lost; were the Fruits of my last Voyage.

By this Relation one may take an estimate of the Riches and Beauty of all those Countries, inhabited by so many People, that are all in a manner already brought under Subjection, and who have a perfect Idea of the Grandeur of our Monarch. It cannot be conceiv'd how much that Continent abounds, as well in all sorts of Grain and Fruit, as in variety of Cattel. 'Tis surrounded on all sides with great Seas the Shoars of which are very deep and seem to present us with natural Ports

Ports; infomuch, that three or four Havens on the Gulph of *Mexico* would undoubtedly secure for us the Possession of those Territories. The *French* are generally so well belov'd, that to make themselves Masters of 'em, they have nothing to do but to settle there incontinently, and to plant their Colonies. What is wanting, may be transported thither by our Vessels; as in like manner, what is wanting in our Country, may be brought us from thence. For from those Parts we have our principal Stores of Skins; we might also get Silks, Timber for Ships, and divers other Commodities. If there be a scarcity of Corn and Wine, 'tis less occasion'd by the defect of the Soil, than for want of the Improvement of Husbandry. Swiftly, to procure all the Treasures of Nature, 'tis only requisite to bestow some Pains in seeking for 'em, and to improve 'em when found. Such is the State of Affairs in that Country: God grant that a happy and lasting Peace may soon put us in Possession, and secure us in the Enjoyment of these Advantages.

F I N I S.

A
RELATION
OF A
VOYAGE

Made by the

Sieur de Montauban,

Captain of the *French* Privateers,

ON THE

Coasts of *Guinea,*

In the Year 1695.

WITH

A Description of the Kingdom of *Cape de Lopez*; and an Account of the Manners, Customs and Religion of the Natives of that Country.

London : Printed in the Year 1698.

WILLIAM

1847

1848

1849

1850

1851

1852

1853

1854

1855

1856

1857

1858

A LETTER to Monsieur * * * *

SIR,

I Have at last receiv'd the Relation of the Voyage, made by Capt. Montauban, commonly call'd Montauban, and I have sent it you printed. You will admire without all Doubt, as well as I, how by the means of his singular Prudence and Courage, he extricated himself from those weighty Pressures, under which any other Person in his Circumstances, would have unavoidably perish'd : You may also call to Mind in reading the beginning of this Narrative, that you had a sight of some of his Seamen at Bordeaux, A. D. 1694. from whence he set out the next Year to undertake the Voyage, of which he here gives us a particular Account.

He gave chase to divers Ships that he met during his Course, and engag'd at Cape Verd, with a Frigate of 34 Pieces of Ordnance. At St. John's Cape he came up with an English Vessel of 20 Guns, and took her after a small Engagement. Afterwards he took a Caper of Brandenburg,

burg, and steer'd his Course to Angola. At last he discover'd the English Guard-Ship, arm'd with 54 Pieces of Cannon near the Coast, and fought her during five or six Hours, till they both came to boarding with great Fury. But when he was just ready to master her, the English Captain set fire to his whole store of Powder, and both the Ships were blown up into the Air, with a most dreadful Noise and Havock.

You may have the satisfaction to take a view of so terrible a Shipwreck in this Narrative, as it were on the Sea shoar, and to observe how Capt. Montauban makes his Escape with Fifteen or Sixteen of his Men. He suffer'd Hunger above Three Days, and at last arriv'd at Cape de Lopez, where he went to visit the King of the Country: He has given us a Description of the Court and Kingdom of that Prince; treating at the same time of his Religion, and forming a Project for the establishing of the Roman-Catholick in those Parts. He stood Godfather to the King's Grand-son, by his Son Prince Thomas, and embark'd in a Portuguese Vessel, to return to Europe. An English Man of his Acquaintance took him on board his Ship, and convey'd him to

Bar-

Barbadoes, where he was confin'd in a Chamber by the Order of M. Russel, Governour of the English Island. Afterwards he was set at Liberty, and transported to Martinica, where he was present at the Death of M. de Blenac, General of the French Islands. From thence he pass'd over into France, and continu'd very doubtful whether he should try his Fortune again by Sea or not.

All these Particulars (Sir) are related in so plain and natural a Style, that you may clearly discern the Integrity and Generosity of the Author. Indeed it must be acknowledg'd that Sailors and other Persons, taken up with the Management of Maritime Affairs, are nothing near so polite, as those that have Employments on the Land, by reason that they do not keep so much Company, and have not an opportunity of conversing so frequently with the more refin'd Wits of the Age; but to make amends for this Defect, they are generally a great deal more sincere. Therefore you need not fear, lest a Sea-Captain should impose on your Credulity: Besides, I have often heard him making a Narration of the same Voyage, yet never could perceive him to vary in the least Circumstance; insomuch, that the Candour and
frèc

free Air, with which he was wont to relate the bravest Actions that were perform'd in the Engagements, would soon persuade his Hearers to believe, that what he said was certainly true. Neither did he write this Narrative thro' Ostentation, since he himself sufficiently declares in the beginning of it, that he did it only to give an Account of his Expeditions to a Minister of State. Lastly, if you still doubt of the Fight, in which the Sieur de Montauban suffer'd Shipwreck, you cannot but remember that you have read it in the Gazettes of the Month of September or October, of the present Year.

I am,

S I R,

Your most Humble, and

most Obedient Servant,

B***

A
RELATION
OF THE
VOYAGE

OF THE

Sieur de Montauban,

Captain of the *French Privateers,*
on the Coasts of *Guinea, A. D. 1695.*

AFTER having been so often made sensible of the Malignant Influences of the Planet that governs at Sea; and having, by the means of a cross Fortune, lost all the Goods which I had gather'd together, with so great Care and Pains, I should take no Delight in calling to Mind the Misfortunes that put an end to my last Expedition; were it not that the Desire of being still more serviceable to the Publick, and to Private Persons, as also to testify to his Majesty the fervent Zeal I had for his Service, did not oblige me to set Pen to Paper, to
give

Sieur De Montauban

give some Account of my Observations to *M. Phelipeaux*, in which he may discern with what Earnestness I penetrated into the most remote Colonies of the Enemies, to destroy 'em, and to ruin their Commerce.

I was not willing to enlarge this Relation with an Account of all the Voyages I made, and of all the particular Adventures that befall me on the Coasts of the *New Spain, Carthagena, Mexico, Florida, New-York, New-England, Newfoundland, the Canary Islands, and Cape Verd*, where I cruised up and down above Twenty Years, having begun to follow the practice of Navigation at the Age of Sixteen. I might also add the Expedition of the Year 1691. in which, being Commander of the Ship, call'd *The Machine*, I ravag'd the Coasts of *Guinea*, enter'd the great River of *Serrelion*, seiz'd on the Fort of the *English*, in which there were 80 pieces of Cannon, and caus'd 'em to be blown up, that they might not be refitted: But I will confine myself to the Narrative of my last Voyage, because 'tis the latest, and that which is still fresh in Memory, as having been made known publickly by the Report that was spread abroad in *France* and elsewhere, about the firing of my Ship, and the blowing me up into the Air, after so prodigious a manner.

In the Year 1684. after having ravag'd the Coast of *Carrack* I got the Wind to *Santa Cruz*, and was inform'd there, that a Convoy of Ships was to set out from the Islands
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of *Barbadoes* and *Nevis* for *England*. Whereupon I was oblig'd to go to the Latitude of *Bermudas*, with a Design to seize on that small Fleet, and in hopes of getting a good Prize. I was no sooner arriv'd, but they appear'd steering directly towards me, without any manner of Fear; but I attack'd the Convoy, call'd the *Wolf*, with two other Merchant-Ships, laden with Sugar; the rest having found means to escape, during the Fight. As I was carrying off this Prize, I met with another *English* Vessel of Sixteen Guns, that came from *Spain*, and was likewise sailing for *England*: She surrender'd after a slight Engagement, and I convey'd her to *Rochel*, where the Court of Admiralty adjudg'd her to me as lawful Prize. After having sold her, I brought my three other Ships to *Bordeaux*, where I arriv'd in the Month of *September*, *A. D.* 1694. These were in like manner allow'd to be good Prize, and I immediately sought for Merchants to dispose of 'em.

In the mean while my Free-Booters, who had not seen *France* for a long time, being now arriv'd in a great City, in which Voluptuousness and Luxury are predominant, were desirous to make themselves some amends for the Fatigues they had endur'd, during so long an Absence from their Native Country: Insomuch, that they riotously wasted vast Sums of Money, and gave way to all Actions of Extravagance. The Merchants and Victuallers made no
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scruple to trust 'em, or to supply 'em with whatever they desir'd, upon the Reputation of their Wealth, and the Report that was given out in the City, with reference to the great Prizes in which they had a Share. Thus they pass'd all the Nights in variety of Divertisements, and the Days in running about the Streets in Masquerade, causing themselves to be carry'd in Chairs, with lighted Torches at Noon-day: This Excess of Debauchery destroy'd some of 'em, and four others deserted me; so that perceiving that I lost my Men, notwithstanding all my Precaution, and all the Prohibitions that I could make, I determin'd to retire from the City as soon as 'twas possible, to preserve the rest of my Company.

At first I fill'd up again the Vacancy of those that were lost, by an equal number of young Men of *Bordeaux*, who in a short time were as capable of playing their Parts as the oldest. And indeed, I always take a particular Care to instruct my Men in the best manner of firing a Piece, and the frequent Exercise, with which I usually train 'em up, within a little while, renders 'em as expert in shooting right at a Mark, and in handling their Arms, as the most ancient Free-booters of the Sea, and the most skilful Hunters on Land.

After having victuall'd my Ship, which carry'd about 34 Pieces of Ordnance, I set out from *Bordeaux* in the Month of *Februry*, *A. D.* 1695. with a Design to cruise on the

the Coasts of *Guinea*, in *Africa*. To that purpose I pass'd to the Islands *Azores*, which lie in the 37th. Degree of Latitude, and rovd up and down during Eight Days, without discovering any thing. From thence I steer'd to the *Canary* Islands, situated in the 25th. Degree, and descry'd the Pike of *Teneriff* at a very great distance, which is reputed to be the highest Mountain in the World. 'Tis reported that those Islands took their Name from *Doggs*, call'd *Canes* in *Latin*, great Numbers of which were found there by the *Portugueses*. I sail'd round about 'em for Fourteen Days, to wait for certain *Dutch* Vessels, which (as I was inform'd) were to come that way; and indeed, they actually appear'd, but enter'd the Port before I could come up with 'em; which Disappointment oblig'd me to steer my Course for *Cape Blanc*, and the Islands of *Cape Verd*, which lie between the 14. and the 18. Degree of Southern Latitude. Upon my Arrival, I met with two *English* Ships riding at Anchor in the Road of the Island of *May*. I sent out my Shallop to discover 'em; and forasmuch as she brought me word, that they were Privateers or Interlopers, of 30 Guns apiece, I took a Resolution to take 'em by boarding; and therefore tack'd about, to make up to 'em: But whilst I was running a Course on one of the Points of the Island, those Vessels did not stay till I had tack'd about again; but suspecting my Design, they speedily set sail, leaving their Cables, Anchors and Shallops on the Road.

I pursu'd 'em all that day ; but the Night approaching, I lost the sight of 'em, and return'd to the Road, from whence they set out, to hoist up the Cables and Anchors, and to sink the Shallops, to which they were fasten'd. Afterwards I steer'd my Course to the Island of *St. Vincent*, to pay my Ship, and to take in fresh Water and Wood. This Island is one of those of *Cape Verd*, or *Green-Head*, where I stay'd Eight Days, and at the end of that Term, having receiv'd Information from a *Portuguese* Bark, that there were two *English* Privateers of 20 or 30 Guns at the Island of *Fuogo*, one of which was refitting, by reason of an Engagement she had with another Privateer, I immediately weigh'd Anchor, and made that Island, which is not very far distant from those of *St. Vincent*, hoping to meet with the Enemies there ; but upon my Arrival I was inform'd by the *Portugueses*, that they had left the said Island *de Fuogo*, five Days before, in the Night, without giving any notice of their Course. Whereupon I steer'd mine to the Coasts of *Guinea*, and touch'd first at the Cape of three Points, where I met with the Guard-Ship which was a *Dutch* Frigate of 34 Pieces of Ordnance, and was cruising on the Main. She did not fail to descry me, and forthwith sail'd directly towards me, to make a Discovery : Forasmuch as I also had a sight of her, and wish'd for an Opportunity to fight her, I caus'd a *Dutch* Flag to be set up, to avoid disheartning her, and to give

give her Liberty to draw near within my Cannon-Shot. When I perceiv'd her to be near enough, I put out the *French* Colours, and made a Signal to her to strike Sail; but she incontinently let fly a Broad-side at me with a great deal of Courage, and receiv'd mine in like manner. Thus we continu'd battering one another, from Morning, till Four a Clock in the Afternoon: Neither was I able to get the Weather-gage, nor to come to a close Engagement, to make use of my *Bucanier* Fuseses to good purpose, in which consists the principal Force of our Privateers, nor to hinder her, by the means of the Advantage of the Wind, which she still kept over me, from casting Anchor under the Fort of the Cape of the three Points; where there were also two other *Dutch* Men of War, one of which carry'd 14 Guns, and the other 28.

I was apt to believe at first, that those three Ships would joyn together in quest of me; so that I tack'd round about during a whole Day, to wait for 'em, and cast Anchor within a League of the Road, hoping that at last the Shame of seeing themselves insulted over, after such a manner, would excite 'em to endeavour to revenge the Affront. But all these Efforts were in vain, and apparently the Guard-Ship was too much disabled to stand in need of a second Engagement. A small *Portuguese* Vessel that pass'd by soon after, gave me to understand, that those Ships were the same, that had

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oblig'd the *Sieur Roy*, Commander of the King's Pink, call'd the *Deep*, to abandon the Coast, which was afterwards confirm'd by the *Sieur Roy* himself, at the Prince's Island, where we happen'd to meet.

Thus having perceiv'd, that the Enemies refus'd to fight, and judging that it would be disadvantageous to me to attack 'em under the Cannon of the Fort; I took a Resolution to go to *Cape de Lopez*, and to the Islands of the Prince, and of *St. Thomas*. By the way, I went to discover *St. John's Cape*, which is on the Continent of *Guinee*, as well as that of the three Points, and I luckily met with an *English Ship* of 20 Guns, laden with 350 Negro's, Elephants Teeth and Wax. It cost me no great trouble to take her, and the Captain told me that he came from *Ardra*, where he took on board 550 Negro's, some of whom he caus'd to be put to Death, for revolting against the Ship's Crew, and others made their Escape to Land in his Shallop, which they had taken away. *Ardra* is one of the principal Towns of *Guinee*, situated on the Sea-shore, being the usual Place of Residence of a Prince, who governs a large Tract of Land in that Country.

From thence I pass'd to the Prince's Island, in the sight of which I took a small Caper of *Brandenburg*, arm'd with Eight Pieces of Cannon, and 70 Men: She was wont to cruise in that Latitude, and to seize on small Barks that pass'd by that way, without

without any Distinction of Nation or Colours. Afterwards I enter'd the Harbour, to cause my Ship, which was very foul, to be cleans'd, and to dispatch the *English* Prize, I had taken just before: I sent her to *St. Domingo*, in *America*, to be condemn'd there, under the Command of the *Sieur de Nave*, with a sufficient number of Men, whom I took out of my own Ship. But I was inform'd some time after, that she was retaken by certain *English* Men of War, who were before the lesser *Goeree*.

In the mean while, not to suffer my Mariners to lead an idle kind of Life, I gave Orders to the Officers to cause my Ship to be careen'd, and with the *Brandenburg* Caper I had taken, and 90 Men, whom I put on board her, we steer'd our Course, during Month and half, cruising up and down the Coasts of *Guinee*, or round about the Lands of the Prince, and of *St. Omer*, without meeting any Enemy. Afterwards I return'd to the Road of the former of those Lands, where I caus'd my Ship to be victual'd with all possible speed; and having made every thing ready, I weigh'd Anchor, and stood in directly for *St. Thomas's* Island, with a Design to sell or to truck away the Caper I had taken. And indeed, I barter'd her for Provisions, not having a sufficient Store to serve us whilst we cruis'd along the Coasts of *Angola*, where I determin'd to pass five or six Months, to avoid a Privateer which the *English* were building in those Parts of

Guinee: They actually fitted out three Men of War and a Fire-Ship, to seek for me in the Road of *St. Thomas*, where they judg'd that I was to continue for some time. At my departure from that Island I descry'd a Ship riding at Anchor, and making towards her, I gave her Chase for a long time, but I could not by any means hinder her from getting a-shoar, and falling in with the Island of *St. Omer*. I miss'd in not taking her 150 Pounds of Gold Dust, which that *Dutch* Interloper had traded for on the Coast.

Afterwards I steer'd to the Coasts of *Angola*, which are situated above 250 Leagues beyond the Equinoctial Line. I arriv'd there *September 22.* and got Information at the distance of three Leagues from the Port of *Cabinda*, that there were two *English* Vessels, laden with Negro's. Forasmuch as I lay under the Wind of that Port I kept off from the Shoar, hoping that the next day the South-west Wind, that usually blows from the Main, would convey me directly into the Port. That Morning, very early, I descry'd a Ship with *English* Colours making up towards me, yet I did not at first take her to be a Man of War, but discover'd some time after, that she carry'd 54 Pieces of Ordnance. I us'd all the Precaution imaginable not to fright her away and set up *Dutch* Colours to make up to her with greater Facility: The *English* Ship on the other side did almost the same thing
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and by the Cannon-Shot, which she boldly discharg'd from time to time, endeavour'd to draw near us. Having perceiv'd her Design, I feign'd to wait for her coming up, steering very slowly, to induce her to believe that my Ship was over-loaded, or that our Course was hinder'd for want of Sails, or a sufficient Complement of Men. We pass'd after this manner from Break of Day, till Ten a Clock in the Morning : She incessantly maintain'd her Flag with Cannon-shot without Balls ; but perceiving at last that I did not do the like to make good mine, and that we were already come within Gun-shot one of another, she let off a Cannon loaded with Ball, which oblig'd me to put out *French* Colours, and to answer her Salute. At the sight of that Flag, the *English* Man of War, without endeavouring to get the Wind of us, let fly two Broad-sides, which I receiv'd without so much as firing one Gun, altho I had seven Men kill'd : I hop'd that being come a little nearer, I might render her incapable of making an Escape ; using my utmost Efforts to get close within Fusée-shot, determining to embolden her to come on Board, since I was not in a condition to board her, because we were to the Leeward. At last, having approach'd by little and little, and seeing her within the reach of my Fusileers, who lay hid under Deck, I caus'd 'em to get up, and they made so continual a Fire, that they soon abated that of the Enemies.

In the mean while, forasmuch as their Company consisted of above Three Hundred Men, and they were also sensible that their Design could not be accomplish'd by the discharging of their Cannon, a Resolution was taken to board us, which they did with hideous Outcrys, and Threats, to give us no Quarter, unless we surrender'd: But their Grappling-Irons not being able to lay hold on the Stern of my Ship, theirs ran in such a manner, that she dash'd her Poop against my Boltsprit, and broke it in pieces.

Then my Men taking the Advantage of the Hurry and Disorder, lost none of their aim, and fir'd so furiously for an Hour and half, that the Enemy being no longer able to resist; and having lost many of their Mariners, began to despond, and retir'd underneath the Decks. I also perceiv'd almost at that very instant that they made me a sign with their Hats to give 'em Quarter. Whereupon I caus'd my Men to desist from firing, and commanded the *English* to embark in their Shallops, in order to surrender themselves on board my Ship. At the same time I appointed some of my Attendants to leap into that of the Enemies, to seize on it, and to prevent all manner of Surprise. I was already overjoy'd at the taking of so considerable a Prize; and so much the rather, in regard that after having master'd that Vessel, which was the Guard-Ship of *Angola*, and the

the largest that the *English* had in those Seas; I should be in a condition to get better Prizes, and to attack any Man of War whatever: My Men were no less joyful than my self; some of whom were going from on Board, and others were employ'd in veering the Cable, with a great deal of satisfaction, when on a suddain Fire, having taken the Powder in the Gun-room, by the means of a Match, which the Captain had left there, hoping to escape with his two Shallops; the Ships being grappl'd together, were both blown up into the Air, and made the most dreadful Noise that ever was heard. 'Tis impossible to make a lively Representation of that sad Spectacle; for since the Spectators were themselves the Actors in so bloody a Tragedy, they knew not whether they saw it or not, and were not able to judge, but of what they themselves had felt: Therefore leaving it to the Reader to imagine the Horror that might arise from the sight of two Ships that are blown up into the Air with Gun-powder, above the height of 200 † Fathoms, † *Toises.* forming as it were an huge Mountain of Fire, Water, Fragments of the Ships, Cords, pieces of Ordnance and Men, with a deadly Havock; during which, amidst the noise of the Guns that were let off in the Air, and of the roaring Waves that swell'd up on all sides; one might also hear the horrible crashing of the shatter'd Masts and Tables, of the torn Sails and Cords; of the

Men crying out, and of the broken Bones, leaving all that I say to the Imagination of the Reader, I shall only declare here what befel my self, and by what good Fortune I escap'd.

When the Fire took, I stood on the Deck of my Ship in the Fore-Castle, where I was giving Orders, and was blown up with some part of the Deck so violently, that (as I take it) the extreme Height, to which I was hurry'd, hinder'd me from being involv'd among the Fragments of the Ships, where I must inevitably have been crush'd in a thousand pieces: I fell back into the Sea, quite stunn'd, and continu'd for a long while under Water, without being able to recover my self; till at last struggling in the Water, as a Man, who is afraid of being drown'd, I got above it, and caught hold of a piece of Mast that lay near me. Then I cry'd out to some of my Men whom I saw swimming round about me, and exhorted 'em to be of good Courage, hoping that we might save our selves if we could find some of our Shallops. But that which troubl'd me more than my own Misfortune, was the sight of two half Bodies, in which there was still some Remainder of Life, floating on the Water, and leaving the Place where they sunk stain'd with their Blood; as also to see round about me an infinite number of Limbs and Members torn from Bodies, and the greatest part of 'em spitted on the Splinters
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of Wood. In the mean while, one of my Men having espy'd an entire Shallop amidst the Wreck, that swam on the Water, told me that 'twas requisite to endeavour to stop a Hole therein, and to take out a small Boat, which was enclos'd within it. Whereupon about Fifteen or Sixteen of us, who had escaped, made up to the Shallop, every one on his piece of Wood, and took so great Care to clear our Boat, that at last our Attempt prov'd successful. Thus we all got into it, and not long after sav'd our Master-Gunner, who had one of his Legs shot off in the Fight. We took up three or four Oars, or pieces of Planks, that serv'd us for the same use. Then we fought for somewhat to make a Sail, and a small Mast; and after having furnish'd our selves in the best manner we possibly could, we entirely rely'd upon the Divine Providence, which alone was able to secure our Life and Safety.

As soon as I had ceas'd from Work, I found my self all over besmear'd with Blood that ran out of a Wound I receiv'd in my Head, and which was apparently occasion'd by my being blown up. Therefore Lint was made for me with my Handkerchief, and a Band with a piece of my Shirt, having first wash'd the Wound with Urine. The same thing was done for others of our Company, who were wounded, whilst our Shallop sail'd without any sight of Land, neither did we know whither we were steering; but that
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which added to our Affliction was, that we had no Provisions, and had already pass'd three Days without either eating or drinking; insomuch, that one of our Men, quite worn out with Hunger and Thirst, drank so great a quantity of salt Water, that he burst. The greatest part of our Company vomited continually, whether they receiv'd any Injury from the Water they swallow'd upon their falling into the Sea, as it besel me, or from that which they were necessitated to drink. As for my self, I was a long time indispos'd, so that my Body swell'd extremely, and a great number of small Pimples broke forth throughout my Body: But I am apt to believe, the cure of my Dropsie, and the Health that I have in some measure recover'd, and which is by degrees more and more restor'd, to be chiefly owing to a Quartan-Agüe, that seiz'd on me a little while after that Misfortune. I do not reckon up the other Inconveniencies that were occasion'd by so desperate a Blow, it being impossible that they should not besal any Person under my Circumstances. • The Fire of the Powder burnt all my Hair, my whole Face, and all over one side of my Body, and I became sensible of that Accident, which commonly happens among the Cannoniers, who serve at Sea; that is to say, I voided Blood thro' the Nose, Ears and Mouth. I know not whether the Blast of the Gun-powder produces that Effect, by excessively dilating the Vessels

Vessels that contain the Blood in our Body, so that the ends of the Branches let it out, or whether the great Noise and Commotion that it causes in those Organs, obliges the Veins to open: But let the case be how it will, 'tis of no great moment, since this is not a proper Place to hold a Consultation of Physicians, as long as we are ready to be starv'd with Hunger; nor to enquire what became of all the *English* Men, when we had much ado to save our selves.

We continu'd our Course by rowing up the Current, because we knew it came from the Port of *Cabinda*; but forasmuch as the Wind was contrary, we could never reach it; and we were forc'd to content our selves only to make *Cape Corfa* if it were possible, which is distant Twelve Leagues from that of *Catherfna*, where we were not able to land, by reason of a Bar, which renders the Coast inaccessible. That was our Design, but Hunger hinder'd us from putting it in Execution, and 'twas requisite to overcome the Obstacles that Nature laid in our way, by getting a-shoar notwithstanding the Bar, which we did at last, with a great deal of Difficulty, hoping to meet with some Negro, who might supply us with Victuals. Therefore one of our Company being detach'd to seek for somewhat to appease our Hunger, had the good Luck to find in a Pond that the Sea had form'd hard by, good store of Oysters sticking to certain Branches, and immediately ran to give us notice of
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this Discovery. Whereupon we all got up the Channel, to that Pond; and being arriv'd there, eat Oysters with a very good Appetite; opening 'em with Knives we had in our Pockets, which we lent one to another very charitably. After having spent two Days there, I divided my Men into three small Bands, and sent 'em to seek for Provisions and Habitations farther up the Land, with Orders to return to the Shallop in the Evening. I also went forth with the rest, but we did not meet with an Habitation, nor any Footsteps of Men. We only saw many Herds of Buffles, of the bigness of an Ox, which fled from us as we drew near 'em. Thus the whole Day being spent, without finding any thing, we all came back to the Shallop to feed upon Oysters, and took a Resolution to depart from that Place the next day, to go to *Cape Corfa*, to the Leeward of which is situated a large Port, where the Vessels that come from Cruising, take in fresh Water and Wood. The Negro's who inhabit the Country as soon as they are inform'd of the Arrival of any Vessels, by the discharging of their Cannon, instantly repair to the Shoar, bringing Provisions to be exchange'd for Brandy, Knives, Hatchets, and other Toys. They are oblig'd to take up their Habitation far from the Sea, by reason that all those Coasts are surrounded with Marshy Grounds. We were no sooner arriv'd at that Cape, but we heard a great noise made by the Negro's, who

who came to sell Wood to the Ships that lay at Anchor in the Port, and I made enquiry among 'em, endeavouring to find out some of my Acquaintance: For since they had very frequently supply'd me with necessary Refreshments, Wood and other Commodities in my other Voyages; I hop'd to meet with some Persons that had Knowledge of me; but altho I knew many of 'em, nevertheless 'twas almost impossible to perswade 'em, that I was Captain *Montauban*, in regard that I was so much disfigur'd; and they all took me for an Impostor that design'd to impose on their Credulity. However, I took the Liberty to tell 'em in their Language, which I understood a little, that I was ready to starve with Hunger, and that I entreated 'em to give me somewhat to eat: But I could not prevail by any means whatever, and 'twas absolutely requisite for me to beg the favour of 'em to conduct me to Prince *Thomas*, who is the Son of the King of that Country, hoping that he would call to mind the good Offices I had formerly done him.

At last I found means to introduce my whole Company into the Presence of that Prince. We pass'd at first thro the Habitations of those Negro's, and began by little and little, to make some Impressions on their Mind; insomuch, that they gave us some *Banana's*, which are a kind of Figs, longer than ones Hand. The next day we arriv'd at Prince *Thomas's* Seat, but I was
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in so sorry an Equipage, that I could not make him take any Cognizance of me, by all the signs I gave him, either in the *Moorish* Language, or in that of the *Portugueses*, which he speaks very fluently. Forasmuch as in bathing with him one day, he had seen a Scar occasion'd by a Musquet-shot I had receiv'd in my Thigh; he told me that 'twas requisite at that very Instant to know whether I really were Capt. *Montauban*; and if I were not the Person, he would take Care that I should lose my Head. Whereupon he ask'd me whether I had not such a Scar; so that after having shew'd it to him, he immediately embrac'd me, and told me that he was very much concern'd to see me in so deplorable a Condition. At first he caus'd wholesome Victuals to be distributed to all my Retinue, and caus'd 'em to be lodg'd in separate Apartments, giving particular Orders to the Negro's, with whom they were quarter'd, to take all possible Care of 'em. As for my self, he retain'd me in his Court, and caus'd me continually to eat at his own Table. When I was a little refresh'd, he acquainted me with his Intention to conduct me to his Father, whose usual Place of Residence was five or six Leagues distant from thence; that is to say, ten or twelve from the Sea-shoar. Whereupon I gave him to understand, that I was very sensible of the Honour he did me, with extreme Satisfaction, and humbly entreated him at the same time to give me leave to take my Free-Booters along

long with me, and to bestow on us some Pieces of Stuff to put us in an Equipage fit to appear before so great a Monarch: He condescended to grant every thing that I desir'd, so that three Days after, we set out altogether in a large Canoo, and pass'd up the River of *Cape de Lopez*, by reason that the Country is so full of Fens and Marshes, that one cannot travel thro' it by Land.

Upon our Arrival at the King's Court, in a Village, consisting of three Hundred Cottages, cover'd with Palm-Tree-Leaves, where the King keeps his Wives and Relations, with some other Negro Families, that have obtain'd the greatest Share of his Favour; a Lodging was provided for me in Prince *Thomas's* Apartments, and all my Attendants were dispos'd of in others. We found the Inhabitants making great Lamentation and Mourning, because the chief Priest of their Religion, whom they call'd *Papa*, dy'd that very Day; and in regard that the Funeral Pomp was to commence, which is usually continu'd for Seven Days, for Priests of his Quality. Indeed he was in great Veneration and Esteem among those People, who look'd upon him as a Holy Man. Forasmuch as during the whole time of that doleful Solemnity, the King was in Mourning, and admitted none to publick Audience, Prince *Thomas* advis'd me to wait patiently, and not to stir out of my Lodging, unless it were to visit his Majesty, because it was the Custom of his Nation.

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However, I could not forbear going to take a view of the Funeral Proceſſion, yet could diſcern nothing but a great Concoure of People round about the Corps of the Deceas'd Perſon. In the mean while, I was well entertain'd by the Order of Prince *Thomas*, who was gon to ſee his Father. Indeed there was no want of *Banana's*, Elephants Fleſh, and River-Fiſh; but we had neither Bread nor Wine, nor any kind of Sawce, as it may be eaſily imagin'd. My Men were treated in like manner in their Apartments, during the whole time of our Abode in that Place.

At the end of Eight Days Prince *Thomas* came to us, and introduc'd us into the Preſence of the King his Father; he is a portly Negro, of a tall Stature, well ſhap'd, and aged about Fifty Years; who, to do me greater Honour, upon his Son's Recommendation, went out of his Houſe, on purpoſe to receive me, and advanc'd ſome Paces forward to meet me. He leant on four or five Women, who ſupported him on all ſides, ſhewing a certain Grandeur, after a very confuſed and odd manner. He was ſurrounded with a great number of Negroes, arm'd with Lances and Fuſees, which they diſcharg'd from time to time with very little Order: Many Trumpeters and Drummers march'd before him, and at the Head of that Company were carry'd divers Standards, of the Colour of thoſe of *Holland*. He had no other Cloaths than a piece of Cotton.

ton-Cloth, with white and blue Stripes, with which some Parts were only cover'd by several Folds made round about his Body.

He was pleas'd to make me sensible of his Amity and Respect for me, by many Demonstrations; and having stretch'd out his Hand, told me, that 'twas the first time he gave it to any Man. When we were arriv'd at his House, he sat down at the Door, and caus'd me to be placed on one side, and his Son on the other. Then he ask'd me several Questions about the Grandeur and Power of the King my Master; and after I had acquainted him, that he alone at present carry'd on a War against the *English* and *Hollanders*, (of whom his Majesty had some knowledge, as having often seen 'em at *Cape de Lopez*) and that he likewise maintain'd it against the *Germans* and *Spaniards*, more potent Nations than the former, he told me that he was well satisfied with my Narrative, and that he had a mind to drink a Health to the King of *France*. Whereupon some Palm-Wine was immediately brought to him, which was not very disagreeable to the Palate, and his Female Attendants serv'd him with it in a large Crystal-Glass. As soon as he began to take the Glass, the Negroes and Negresses, who attended in great numbers, held up his right Arm, and continually kept it steady in the same posture, till he had made an end of drinking. Afterwards a great noise was made with the Trumpets and Drums, and a Volley of Musket, or rather Fusée-shot.

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Then Prince Thomas ask'd me what was the Name of the King of *France*; and after I had made Answer that he was call'd *Lewis the Great*, he told me he was desirous that I should stand God-father to a Child he had, aged only seven or eight Months, and that I should name him *Lewis the Great*; whereupon I could not forbear smiling a little. He promis'd me likewise that at the first Voyage I should make to his Country he would deliver him into my Hands, to be convey'd to *France*, and presented to the King, for whose Service he design'd him; being well pleased that his Son should be educated after the manner of that Nation, and in the Court of so great a Monarch. I also engag'd on the other side, that the very first time I should come back to *Guinee*, I would not fail to put him in mind of his Promise, to the end that at my Return to *France* I might set before the King the greatest Present that could possibly be made; namely, the Son of Prince Thomas. Pray assure him (said that Prince) that I am one of his particular Friends, and that if he stand in need of my Service I will pass over into *France*, with all the Lances and *Fusees* belonging to the King my Father; that is to say, with all the Forces of the Kingdom. Then the King resuming his Discourse gave me to understand, that he also would take a Progress thither in Person, if it were requisite, and immediately all the Negroes and Negresses made so hideous an Out-cry, that I was extremely surpriz'd: That Cry no sooner

sooner ceas'd, but the Fusileers discharg'd a Volley of all their Fire-arms, the Trumpets sounding, and Drums beating; and the Lance-men fell a running from one side to another backward and forward, with great Shouts; so that I could not choose but be somewhat frightened: And indeed, I did not know the meaning of that Uproar, neither was I able to recover my self, till I perceiv'd that the King drank a Health to the King of *France* a second time, with the same Ceremonies as before; that Prince *Thomas* pledg'd his Father, and that 'twas order'd that we should all drink at the same time. Which being done accordingly, the King caus'd two Loaves of Wax to be brought to him, made me a Present of 'em, desiring me to accept of 'em as a Mark of his Friendship, and afterwards enter'd his House.

This Audience being thus concluded, Prince *Thomas* conducted me thro' all the Quarters of the Village, where he went to visit his Friends, and on the following Days we pass'd to divers other Villages, situated farther up the Country at the distance of five or six Leagues one from another. These People, the greatest part of whom never travell'd to the Sea-shoar, and consequently never had a sight of white Men, ran from all parts to see us, and brought us greater quantities of Fruit, and of Flesh, of Buffies and Elephants, than we could eat. The Elephants of that Country are not altogether like those of the *East-Indies*; being but of

one kind, as also are those of *Cofala*, near *Zanguebar*, on the Eastern Coasts of *Ethiopia*. The Negroes eat 'em with a great deal of Delight, and esteem their Flesh beyond any other: They make their most sumptuous Feasts with 'em, and those who were desirous to do us most Honour, presented 'em to us instead of Buffles; on which, nevertheless I set a greater Value.

Forasmuch as they were not able to comprehend the difference of Colour between our Complexion and theirs, they stroak'd our Faces with their Hands, to see whether the white Colour would pass away; nay, divers of our Company had their Hands scrap'd with Knives, sometimes even till they were hurt, yet we durst not complain of that rough usage: However, Prince *Thomas* perceiving it, commanded his Attendants not to suffer 'em thus to rub and scratch our Fingers, and spoke aloud to the People that ran after us, telling 'em that all Foreigners were white, and that if the Negroes travell'd into other Countries, they would appear as strange to those Natives, as we did among them in *Guinee*. Nay, he often smil'd to see the Multitude continually running after us, as if we had been some unknown Animals; and I know not whether he were displea'd to see us thus pester'd by the Importunity of the Negroes, or whether he might not take some Delight in observing the Sottishness of those People: And indeed, I had sometimes an opportunity to take notice of all their extravagant Fopperies. At

At last, after three Days Journey, accompany'd with variety of Divertisements, the Prince convey'd me thro' another Road to take leave of his Father. The King carefs'd me in a most obliging manner, according to the Custom of his Nation, and made me promise to visit him the first time I return'd to *Guinee*. Afterwards we embark'd in his Canoo, and arriv'd the next day at Prince *Thomas's* Village, where he continu'd the noble Entertainments, with which he was wont to treat us. Then he told me that he was desirous that I should perform the Office of a Godfather to his Son, and I comply'd so much the more willingly, in regard that I had an Opportunity of contributing somewhat to the making of a Christian, and the sanctifying of a Soul.

But forasmuch as I doubted whether the Priest of the Village knew how to baptize, or remember'd the Words that ought to be pronounc'd in the Administration of that Sacrament, I entreated the Prince to provide some of those Priests who were in the *Portuguese* Vessels, and he accordingly sent for one to *Cape de Lopez*, who arriv'd two Days after. The Christian Religion was first introduc'd into that Country by the *Portuguese*, altho' it be true indeed, that they do not maintain it therein as much as it is requisite: But the Obstacles that hinder the Propagation of it, proceed without doubt from the difficulty of inhabiting an almost wild and barren Country, where the Air and Provisions

are not natural to Foreigners: Therefore in order to its firm Establishment in those Parts; 'twould be expedient for the *Europeans* to have settled Habitations, or to build Towns there, to instruct the Negroes in the Articles of Faith, and Mysteries of the Gospel, and to send Missions thither from time to time; which might be done with great Facility, by reason that those People are extremely docil, and very capable of imbibing good Principles, and of embracing any Doctrine that one would go about to teach 'em, since they have liv'd for a long time without any manner of Belief, or any *Idea* of another Religion. These Negroes being thus converted to Christianity, some of 'em might be ordain'd Priests, who might be furnish'd with Rituals, and other Books relating to the Ceremonies of the Church, and a Catechism for the regulating of their Faith, till they were capable of reading the New Testament. It would also be requisite to establish a Bishop in that Town, who should take care to send Priests into the several Habitations of the Negroes throughout the Country, and to cause Oratories to be built in the most populous Places.

Thus the Christian Religion might be propagated in *Guinee*, and would be less liable to be extirpated by the Wars that the Natives make with foreign People. A Reformation might also be effectually carry'd on among the Christians, who reside in the Kingdoms of *Fez* and *Morecco*, and a mutual

al Correspondence might be maintain'd between the Priests of that Nation, and those of *Guinee*, to the end that they might assist one another in the Preservation of Religion throughout all the Coasts of *Africa*. Indeed Christianity was planted almost after the same manner among the *Gemiles*, who had a much greater Aversion to our Faith, than the Negroes of *Guinee* have at present. The Priests, who are to be found thereabouts, are not for the most part real Priests; not having been ordain'd by any Bishop, and having only substituted themselves in the room of those who died in their Country: Neither have they retain'd any thing that favours never so little of Christianity, altho' they perform many Ceremonies, and have some Appearance of the Administration of the Sacraments.

But to return to our private Christening; upon the Arrival of the *Portuguese* Priest, Prince *Thomas's* Son was actually Baptiz'd, and nam'd *Lewis the Great*, according to his Father's Intention: A certain Negress of his Relations stood Godmother, and I my self was Godfather. I was told that that Lady bore the name of *Antonia*, which she receiv'd from the Wife of a *Portuguese* Captain, who held her at the Baptismal Font. Two or three Days after the Celebration of this Solemnity, which was perform'd with all the Magnificence that could be expected among the Negroes; some of Prince *Thomas's* Guards, who were posted at *Cape de Lopez*,

to give notice of the Arrival of the Ships, came to acquaint him with that of an *English* Vessel. Whereupon I entreated him to give me leave to embark therein, to return to my native Country, in order to my perfect Recovery from that illness, under which I still labour'd. But he was not willing that I should put my self into the Hands of my Enemies, and desir'd me to have a little Patience, till the Arrival of some *Portuguese*, with whom he would readily permit me to go. However, he went to *Cape de Lopez*; to truck away Elephants Teeth, Wax, and Negroes, for Iron, Arms and Brandy, and return'd after ten or twelve Days, when he told me, that a *Portuguese* Vessel lay at Anchor at *Cape de Lopez*; that 'twas requisite to cause my self to be convey'd in Canoos, to embark there; that he had recommended me to the Captain; and that I should want nothing that was necessary for me during my Voyage to *Europe*.

Then I took care to get all my Men together, except two, whom I did not think fit to wait for, because they had taken a Progress into the Country for five or six Days, and I knew not where to find 'em. Therefore we embark'd in the Canoos of that Prince, after having solemnly taken my leave of him; and being arriv'd at *Cape de Lopez*, I perceiv'd that the *Portuguese* Commander was an old Acquaintance of mine, with whom I had contracted Friendship at the Island of *St. Thomas*. Whereupon I took
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Ship with him, and three Days after, we cast Anchor before the same Island; the Governour of which shew'd me a world of kindness, and did the like to all my Men, during a whole Month that we were oblig'd to stay in that Port. At the expiration of that time, an *English* Ship arriv'd, which had been steering her Course on the Golden Coasts. I soon got into the Acquaintance of the Captain, and at last we became so intimate Friends, that I thought my self bound in Honour to accept of the kind Offers he made me, He entreated me to embark with him, and assur'd me, that at *Barbadoes*, to which place he was bound, I should meet with all the Supplies, necessary for the recovering of my Health; because there were certain able *Jewish* Physitians, who were his particular Friends. Therefore I went on board his Ship, with all my Men, notwithstanding all the Reasons alledg'd by the Governour of the Island, to induce me to suspect the *English* Captain, who was without doubt one of the most courteous and upright Men of his Nation: He was so kind as to resign his Cabbin to me, and to afford me all the Delights and Divertisements that can be imagin'd, to mitigate the Pains I endur'd from time to time.

Ten Days after our Departure from *Sr. Thomas*, having lost the Rudder of our Ship, we were oblig'd to set up a Mast in its place, which was put thro' the Port-holes of the Gun-room, and we were forc'd to steer with

with it, during the whole time of our Voyage, which continu'd three Months. When we stood in for *Barbadoes*, our Provisions began to fail, and there only remain'd what was sufficient for three Days, insomuch, that the Captain being much offended at his being overcharg'd with my Men, order'd three quarters of their Allowance to be retrench'd; and as soon as we arriv'd in the Port, went to salute *M. Russel*, who was Governour of the Island. He gave him a particular Account of the Engagement I had with the Guard-Ship of *Angola*, and was very much blam'd for bringing me to *Barbadoes*. Afterwards, returning to his Ship, he related to me every thing that was discours'd between him and the Governour, who forbid him under pain of Death, to suffer me to land: However, he did not acquaint me with the Prohibition, but contented himself only to advise me not to go a-shore, to avoid giving any cause of Suspicion to *M. Russell*, which Order I promis'd punctually to observe, not being solicitous to take any further Cognizance of a Place, which was well known to me a long time ago, and being unwilling to give the least Offence to my Captain.

The next day, many *Jews*, who were turn'd out of *Martinica*, came to visit me upon the Report of my Arrival, and perceiving me to be very much indispos'd and weaken'd, they sent to me divers Physicians of their Nation, who told me that I could not be

be cur'd, unless I were brought a-shoar, proffering at the same time to sollicite the Governour on my behalf, to give leave, that I might be convey'd into a House on the Port. Whereupon I drew up a Petition to *M. Russel*, in which I entreated him to grant me such a License, promising that I would not stir out of the Chamber that should be appointed for my Lodging, only to re-embark, and to cause my self to be transported to *Martinica*. However, the Physitians themselves were oblig'd to be my Bail, and I was at last conducted to the House of one *M. Jacob Lewes*, where great Care was taken of me during the whole time of my Abode in that Place.

Three Days after I was carry'd thither, the Major-General came to see me by the Governor's Order; very generously promis'd me his Protection, and offer'd his Service, especially to procure me any thing that might be necessary for the Restauration of my Health: Yet I was visited from time to time by the same Major, and every day by a Captain of the Garrison; who came not so much to enquire after the State of my Health, as to observe, whether I should ere long be in a condition to be transported out of the Island. *M. Russel* himself came in like manner ten or twelve Days after my Arrival, to know whether it were true that I was really so ill as it was reported: He also gave me a second Visit seven or eight Days after, in the Evening, and caus'd me to be remov'd from

from the *Jew's* House where I lodg'd, to that of an *English* Merchant: He told me at the same time, that I should be better accommodated there than I had been at *M. Jacob Lewis's*; but the real Intention was, that I should be better guarded, and that I might not have an Opportunity of discoursing with so many People. The next day he came again to see me, and ask'd me how I lik'd my new Quarters. I heartily thank'd him for the good Offices he had done me, and to the end that he might not have cause to suspect my Men, I entreated him to give Orders, that they should be confin'd in the Cittadel, to prevent them from straggling about the Island, and from making their Escape.

Then *M. Russel* told me, that he intended to do so; but that I ought to understand that they were Prisoners of War, as well as my self. I reply'd, That I was not ignorant of it; and that I thought my self happy in falling into his Hands; but that the *English* Captain, who brought me to *Barbadoes*, had pass'd his Word that I should not be retain'd nor any of my Company: That upon his Protestations of inviolable Fidelity, and the Offers of Service he made me, I ventur'd to embark, relying on the marks of Friendship, which he had already shewn: Then I added, that my Request to him was only to grant me my Liberty, and that of my Men, promising that I would ever be mindful of the Favour, either in restoring the Prisoners whom I might carry off from the Islands, if I should

should take up Arms again, or in paying him what Ransom he should think fit to require.

No, Sir, (said *M. Ruffel*) I will neither have your Ransom, nor your Prisoners; for you are so gallant a Man, that your Misfortune and Illness cannot but be pitied, and therefore on the contrary, I would entreat you to accept of Forty Pistoles, of which I make you a Present, to supply you with Neccessaries. He gave 'em me in a Purse, which without doubt he brought for that very purpose, and at his Departure acquainted me that he was going to give Orders, that my Men should be got together again. The next day he sent me two of 'em, who told me, that they did not know what was become of the rest, and that they had Orders from the Governor to stay with me: I had the Liberty to send 'em abroad, to procure any thing that I stood in need of, and at last finding my self somewhat strengthen'd by the means of the extraordinary Care that my Landlord took of me, I acquainted the Officer, who visited me every day, that I would beg leave of the Governour to embark in the first Vessel that should set out from *Martinica*.

Three Days after there arriv'd a Bark, which the Count de *Blenac*, General of the French Islands, sent for the exchanging of Prisoners. *M. Ruffel* gave me notice of its Arrival, and that I should prepare for my embarking therein. Then I had the Liberty to go to his House to thank him for all
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the Kindnesses he had shewn me. He told me that he was sorry he was oblig'd by the Law of Arms not to allow me more Freedom than I had, and that he entreated me to afford a favourable Entertainment to the *English Men* who should fall into my Hands. Afterwards I went on board the *French Bark*, which was commanded by the *Sieur Courpon*, formerly an Inhabitant of *St. Christophers*; but I could not regain any of my Free-booters, except those two, who were sent to me by *M. Russel*, as I have already hinted.

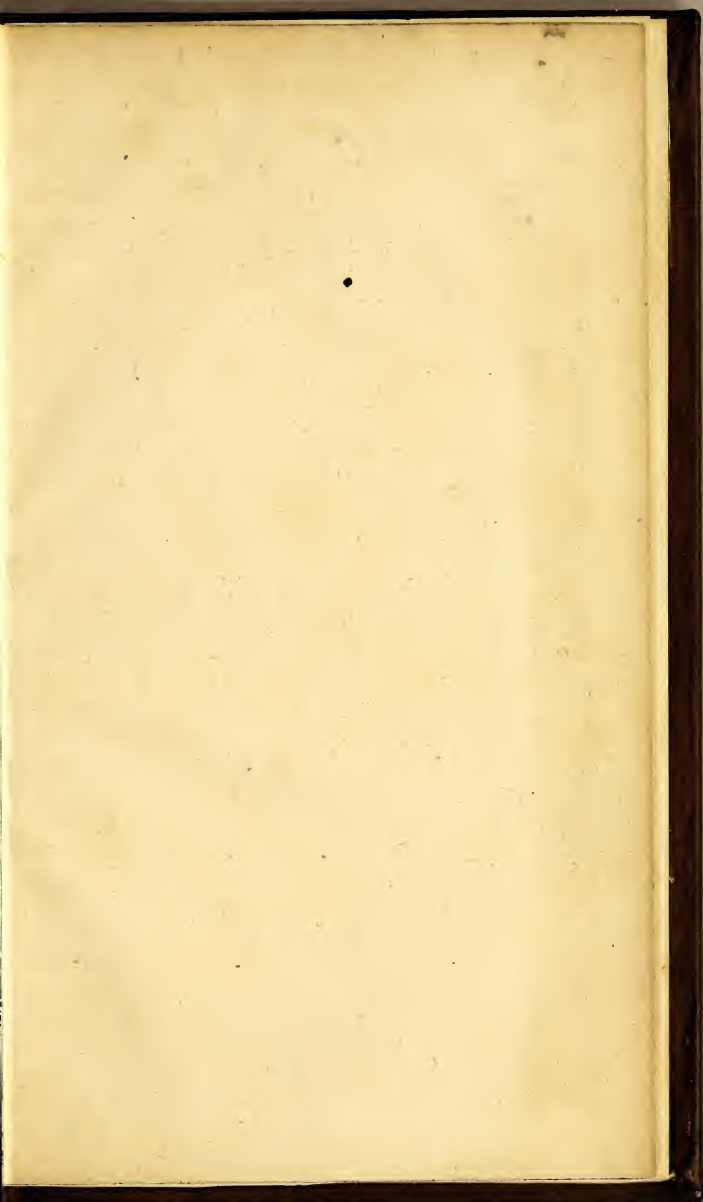
We disembark'd at the Royal Fort of *Martinica*, and I repair'd with my two Men to the Town, to give a Visit to *M. de Blenac*, who was seiz'd with the last Fit of Sickness; of which he died. I gave him a particular Account of all my Adventures, and I perceiv'd him to be much surpriz'd to hear a Relation of so great Disasters. Forasmuch as he was desirous that I should lodge in his House all the time that I stay'd at *Martinica*, he made me every day repeat the particular Circumstances of my Engagement with the *English Ship*; and at last having found an Opportunity of conveying me to *France*, he sent to enquire after the Captain of a Vessel that was bound for that Kingdom, and recommended me to his Care. He determin'd likewise to give me Recommendatory Letters for *M. Phelipeaux*, to procure me some Employment; but the day before my departure, he fell into so great weakness, that he was no longer in a condition to write,

write, and died that very Evening, *June 10.* Indeed I had all the reason in the World to be very much concern'd at his Death; for *M. De Blenac*, who was a Person of singular Qualities, took delight in being serviceable to all Mankind; and more especially had a tender Compassion for those that were in a distressed Condition, or lay under the Pressures of ill Fortune, as my Case was at that time: He always endeavour'd to be beforehand with 'em, relieving 'em in their Necessities, as soon as they came to his Knowledge, and made a voluntary Proffer of the Favours he was ready to bestow, even before they could well be sued for. In a word, he was a Man of an Heroick Courage, and a skilful Navigator, well vers'd in Maritime Affairs; knowing all the Coasts and Latitudes of the Continent of *America*, and highly esteem'd by the King for his Integrity, Justice and Prudence, and for all the signal Services he had done the State, in matters relating to Trade, and the discovery of the Islands.

The next day after his Death, I went on Board the *Virgin*, a Vessel of *Bordeaux*, which was also built there, and after a few Days Passage; at last I arriv'd safe in the Port of that City, with many different and contrary Sentiments. I know not whether I shall bid adieu to the Sea for ever, having been so much dishearten'd by my last Misfortune; or whether I shall embark once again to revenge the Indignities put upon me

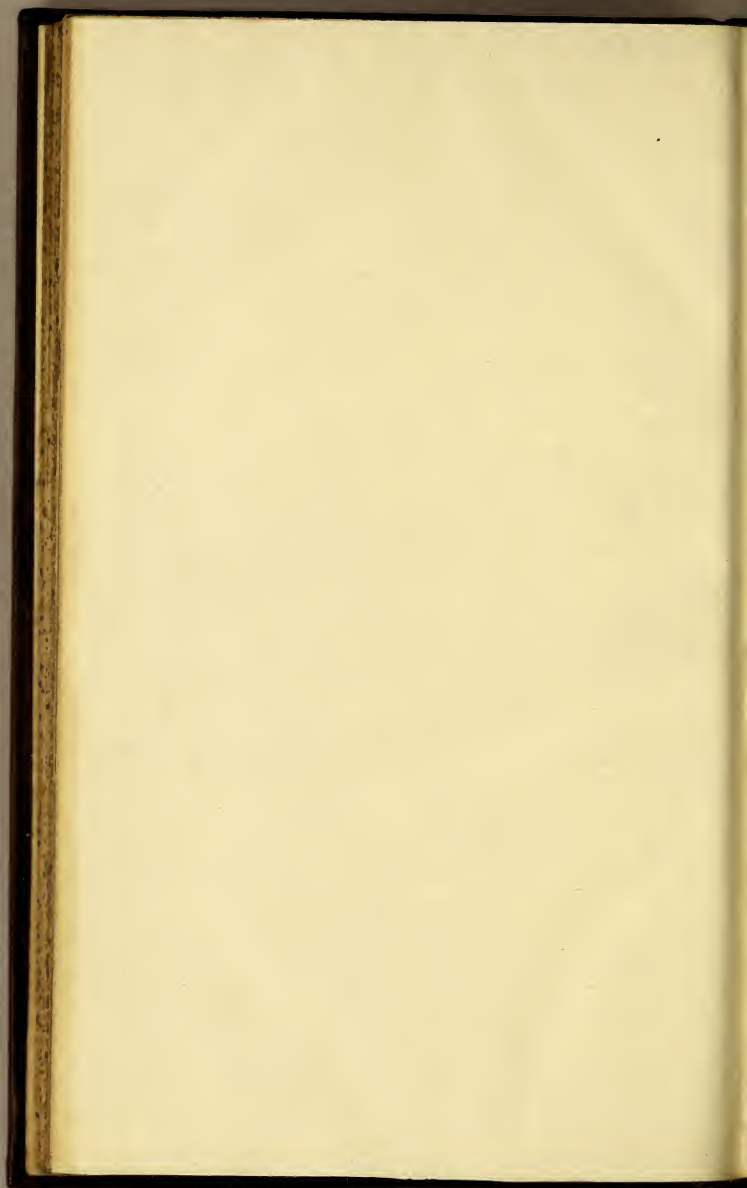
me by the *English*; or whether I shall undertake another Voyage, to get a small Estate; or whether I shall stay at home in Tranquillity, contenting my self with the peaceable Enjoyment of what my Relations have left me. However, 'tis certain, that Maritim Voyages are apt to create in Men almost the same Passions as Gaming: For as the losing Gamester, notwithstanding the ill Luck he has so often had before, does not believe that he shall always be unfortunate, but is still egg'd on by I know not what Impulse to venture farther; so we Mariners, whatever Disasters may have befallen us at Sea, are continually boy'd up with the hopes of meeting with a fair opportunity to indemnify our selves for all our Losses. Upon the whole, I am apt to believe, that into whose Hands soever my Narrative may happen to fall, they will find it very difficult to give me Advise as to the Matter in Debate, and even to take it themselves.

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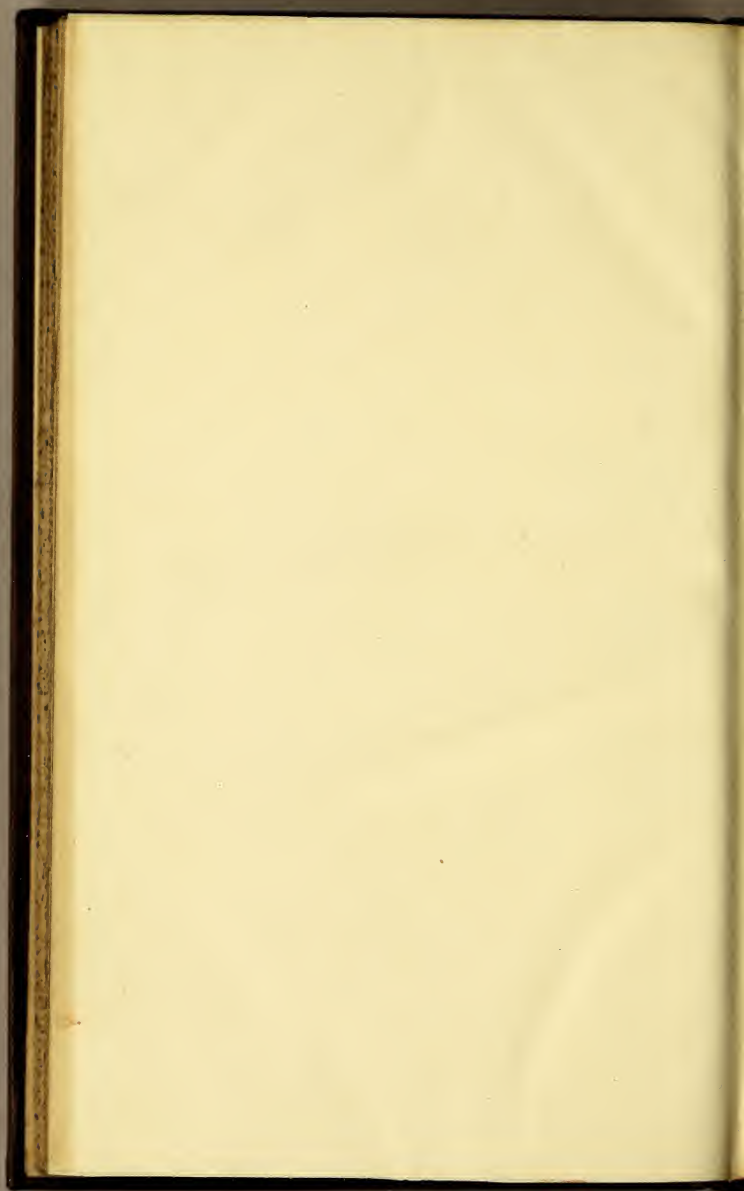


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